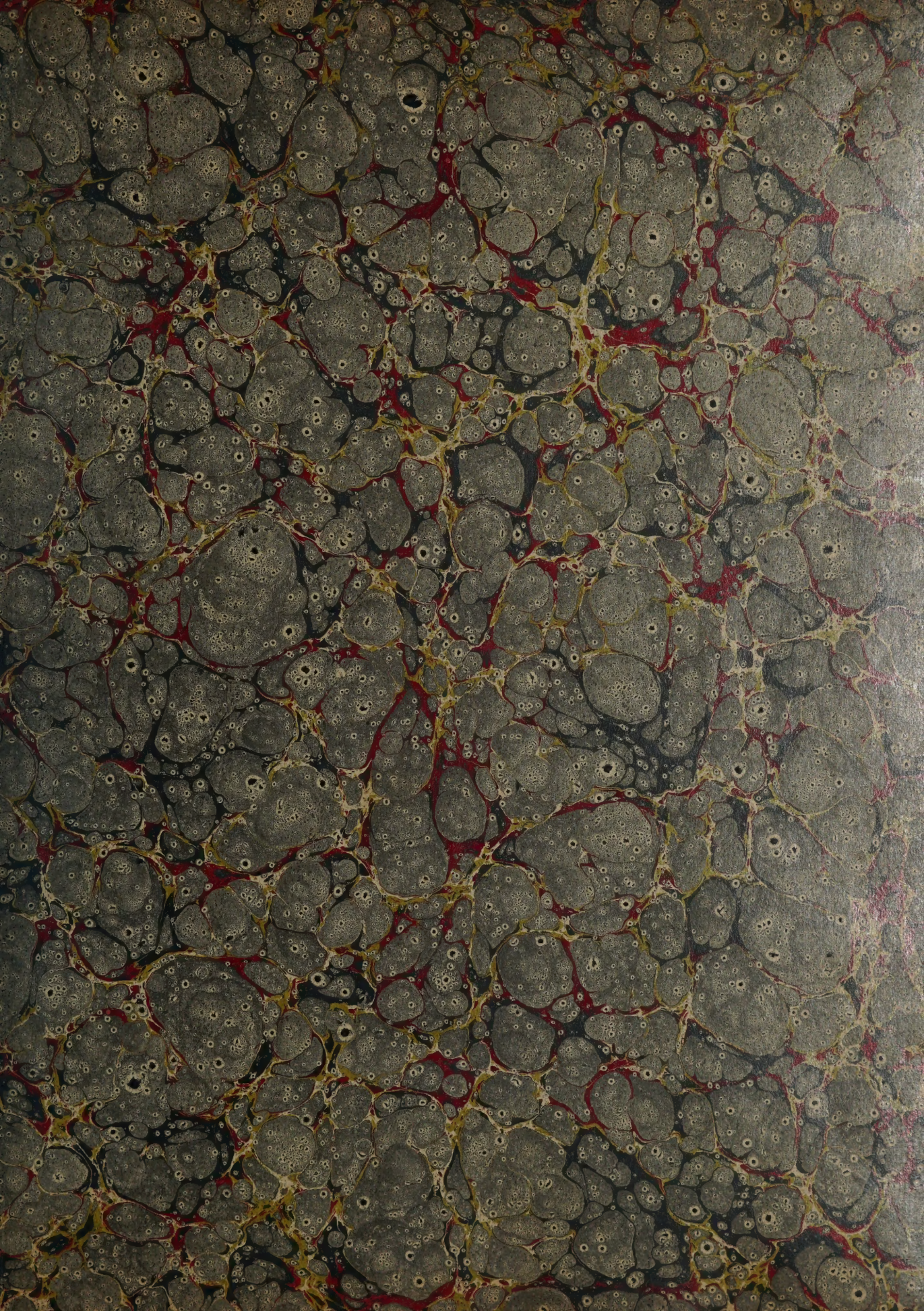


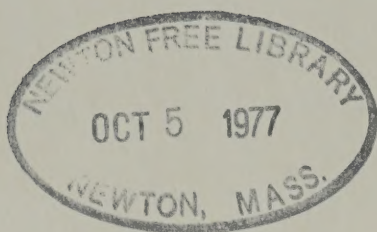


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Newton Sabbath School Union.

Newton Collection

5th Volume

January 15. 1882 — April 24. 1884.

Newton Mass
Sunday evening Jan 15th 1882.

The Forty third Annual meeting of the "Newton Sunday School Union" was held this evening in the Baptist Church Newton Centre at 6.30. President E. R. Clark in the chair. After reading selections of the Scriptures, Prayer was offered by the Rev E. S. Braislin, Pastor of the Church.

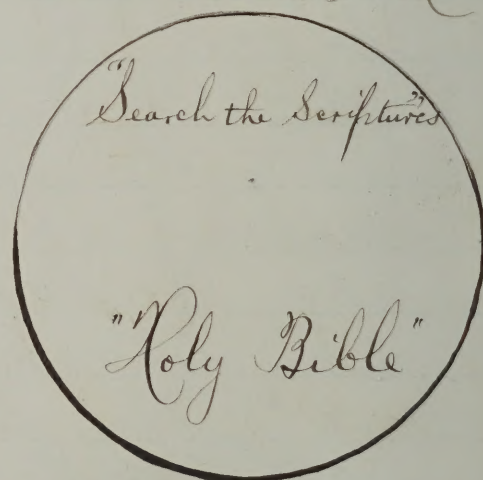
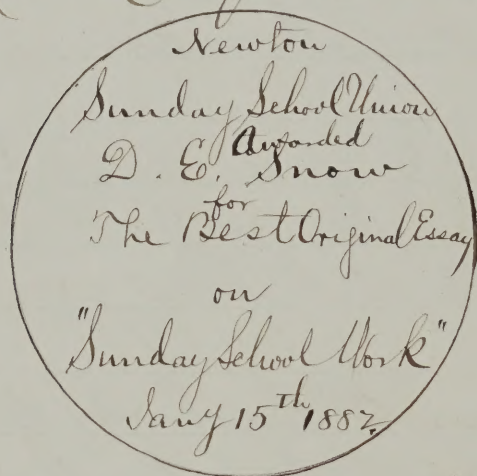
The subject for the ^{evening} was the reading of the five selected Essays by Deacon Chas. E. Eddy Jr of Newton as follows

- 1st "The Sunday School Interests"
- 2nd "How to promote the best interest of the School"
- 3rd "The relation of the S. School to the Community"
- 4th "Old Heads in New Hoods; Helps in Sunday School Work"
- 5th "The Sunday School and the Church"

Pres Clark having announced the following Committee on award as follows: Rev D. B. Pease, Hon J. C. Park, Rev E. S. Braislin, Prof J. K. Richardson & W. S. Slocum they retired with the five essays and brought in a unanimous report in favor of the last essay read "The Sunday School and the Church" and highly commended

the 3rd essay "The relation of the Sunday School to the Community". Upon opening the envelopes containing the names of the authors, both essays were discovered to have been written by Mr D. E. Snow of Newton.

Pres Earle requested him to step forward and in a few appropriate words presented him with the Gold Medal upon which was inscribed



Mr Snow replied by saying that in his business he had handled many gold coins, none had the inscription which he found on this one, and none which he had handled did he value so highly.

While the judges were out the records of the last meeting were read and approved. The Annual Reports of the Secretary and Treasurer were submitted and showed that 22 Schools were connected with the Union, with a total membership for the quarter ending Dec 31st 1881.

was 334%, average attendance during the quarter 241%, and the contributions for the year were \$2,456.77; Teachers meetings 298; conversions 125; increase over last year 46.

The Treasurer's reported showed there was a balance on hand of \$25.11.

Both reports were accepted and placed on file.

The Superintendents report as follows:

Methodist	Newtonville
Whole number	135
Average	90
Contributions	\$23.90
Conversions	1

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	163
Average	119
Contributions	\$14.45
Teacher's meetings	3

Channing	Newton
Whole number	130
Average	105
Contributions	\$98.00
Teacher's meetings	7
Conversions	15

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	133
Average atten	94
Contributions	\$19.12

Methodist	Centre
Whole number	80
Average	54
Contributions	\$15.22

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	207
Average	129
Contributions	\$49.64
Teachers' meetings	13

Congregational	Highlands
Whole number	165
Average	123
Contributions	\$32.56
Teacher's meeting	3
Conversions	1

Baptist	Centre
Whole number	185
Average	136
Contributions	\$38.00
Teacher's meetings	3
Conversions	2

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	92
Average	63
Contributions	\$40.21

St. Mary's	Lower Falls
Whole number	76
Average	60
Contributions	\$13.79
Conversions	5

Baptist	W. Falls
Whole number	113
Average	62
Conversions	\$22.03
Teacher's meeting	13
Conversion	3

Congregational	W. Newton
Whole number	290
Average	517
Contributions	\$40.17
Teacher's meetings	11

Universalist	Newtonville
Whole number	88
Average	63
Contributions	\$20.30
Teacher's meetings	13
Conversions	2

Unitarian	Gentra
Whole number	64
Average	48
Contributions	\$20.00
Teacher's meetings	6
Congregational	Auburndale
Whole number	265
Average	185
Contributions	\$73.86
Teacher's meetings	12
Congregational	Gentra
Whole number	175
Average	133
Contributions	\$37.59
Conversions	2
Baptist	West N
Whole number	120
Average	92
Contributions	\$234.23
Conversions	1
Methodist	Auburndale
Whole number	140
Average	105
Contributions	\$16.00
Teacher's meetings	4
Conversions	5

Thompsonville	N. Centre
Whole number	86
Average	68
Con contributions	\$8.18
Teacher's meeting	1

Congregational	Newtonville
Whole number	235
Average	172
Contributions	\$41.93

Eliot	Newton
Whole number	405
Average	299
Contributions	\$158.36
Teacher's meetings	3
Conversions	3

Recapitulation	
Number of Schools reported	21
Whole number of Scholars	3347
Average	2417
Contribution	\$1000.54
Teacher's meetings	91
Conversions	30

8
The Superintendents retired and reported the following list of Officers for the ensuing year.

Pres A. S. Weed - Newton
Vice " J. A. Newell West "
Secy & Treas Geo. C. Dunne - Newton
Directors } L. E. Leland
Rev. H. Mackay L. Falls

The Choir of the Church added much to the interest.

Adjourned to the third Sunday in April.

- Geo C Dunne
Secretary

Annual Meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union.

The annual meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union took place last Sunday evening, in the Baptist Church, Newton Centre, and was one of the largest attended and most interesting meetings of its character that have occurred. Every seat in the large auditorium was filled, the aisles were crowded, and many were entirely unable even to gain admittance.

The principal cause of this augmented interest in the annual meeting was the fact that the five selected prize essays written on "Sunday School Interests," were to be read, and the gold medal offered by President E. B. Earle awarded.

The exercises of the evening were opened with scripture reading and prayer, and President Earle then announced that Deacon Charles E. Eddy, Jr., of Newton, would read the five essays on "Sunday School Interests" which the officers of the Union had selected from the nine submitted.

Mr. Eddy then read the papers, and the committee on award, consisting of the Rev. Dr. B. K. Peirce, Hon. John C. Park, Rev. E. S. Braislin, Prof. J. K. Richardson and W. S. Slocum, then retired to consider them and report which one should receive the gold medal offered for the best.

While the committee were out, the annual reports of the Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. George C. Dunne, were submitted, and showed that 22 schools were connected with the Union; that the total membership for the quarter ending December 31, 1881, was 3347; that the average attendance during that time was 2417; that the contributions for the year were \$2,456.77, that the number of teachers' meetings during the year was 298; that the conversions for the year numbered 125; and that the increase over the previous year was 76. In concluding his report, the Secretary says:

"It will be observed by the report that our schools have been largely blessed by the presence of the Holy Spirit, the number of conversions being one of the largest on record. Oh! that these young converts could be trained and developed into useful workers for the Master. What a power they would be in the year to come. We are too apt to forget all about them as soon as we get them into the church. Then it is that they need our encouragement and counsel.

Briefly I have sketched something of our work, but as in every life there is more of the invisible and unwritten than of the seen and recorded, so of all Christian labor is it true, that the most precious in the eyes of Heaven, and often those which bear the richest fruitage, is known only to God, and by Him can be recorded. A new year of labor lies before us, inviting us to go forward. As we enter upon it, let us not be satisfied with the prosperity obtained in the past, but expect larger success in winning our scholars to Christ, that we may render our account with joy, and having "turned many to righteousness, may shine as the stars forever and ever."

When the committee returned they reported unanimously in favor of the essay numbered "five," and bearing the title of "The Sunday School and the Church," and highly commended that entitled, "The relation of the Sunday School to the Community." Upon opening the envelopes containing the names of the authors, both essays were discovered to have been written by Mr. D. E. Snow, of Newton, one of the ablest Sunday School superintendents Newton ever had. This essay will be found in full in another column. The successful competitor, upon being called forward by the President, was presented with the gold medal, and replied very appropriately that although in his business he had handled many gold coins, none had the inscription which he found on this one, and none which he had handled did he value so highly.

The following board of officers were chosen for the ensuing year:—President, A. S. Weed; Vice President, J. A. Newell; Secretary and Treasurer, Geo. C. Dunne; Directors, L. E. Leland and Rev. Henry Mackay.

The Successful Prize Essay on "Sunday School Interests."

WRITTEN BY D. E. SNOW.

The Sunday School is only one form of Church work, in which her strong and gentle hands are stretched out to guide and feed the lambs of the flock.

The Church must be united to the School by a four-fold cord, along which its warmth and vitality may be sent into the School, and by which the School, in its turn, may enlarge and enrich the Church.

That four-fold cord is: 1st, the election of the officers of the School by the Church, on the nomination of the teachers; 2d, hearty sympathy and earnest prayer for the School; 3d, a willingness to teach whenever needed; 4th, the sending of all the available children into the School, and keeping them there.

The minister should take a practical interest in the School, not always by taking a Bible Class,—although that is very desirable,—but he should be present at the opening or closing of the School, to apply the lesson of the day, or utter some thought for the young, or lead in prayer. Especially before Communion Sundays, he may have a large influence in drawing the attention of the young Christians to the duty of confessing Christ, and may thus gather some fruit at each recurring Sacrament, from this garden of the Church.

At the Teachers' Meeting he may be very useful in leading in the study of the lesson, or in some course of instruction, which shall qualify the teachers the better to teach their classes.

A word here and there to the congregation as to practical matters connected with the School, will be opportune and useful.

The Sunday School Concerts will afford him excellent opportunities to preach short sermons to the children, which, in connection with music and recitations, will give an instructiveness and solidity to the concert, now somewhat in danger of being light and evanescent in its character and influence.

The Superintendent is to superintend all departments of the school. He should be there early to greet the teachers and scholars as they come, and give the early comers a word of cheer and commendation, while he carefully looks to the nice adjustment of the seats for the classes, and sees that the rooms are properly ventilated, and the Bibles and hymn books distributed, and everything in readiness for the session of the school.

He will be careful to have his opening exercises short, his prayer brief and adapted to the children, his responsive exercises more devotional than historical, giving frequent opportunities for the reciting in concert of passages of Scripture which shall glide into the memory, and be a source of solace and strength to the scholars.

He will look after the Librarian's and Secretaries' departments, and see that they are running smoothly and effectively.

He will bear the school in his thoughts all the days of the week, and be quick to perceive on Sunday any rising interest in the individual or the class.

He will provide for an orderly close, in which the lesson of the day may be concentrated in a thought or two, and the last exercise be a prayer in which the school may engage, sitting, and with bowed heads, with no time for rushing for hats and coats until the "Amen" is said and the bell is struck.

The seeking of substitutes to fill vacancies after the session has begun, is a serious evil. Going to a Bible-class, teasing a member to take a class, and perhaps going to several before success is reached, is an interruption to the teachers, and a serious hindrance to the classes. The cure for this is for every absent teacher to provide a substitute; but this is more than you can expect of poor human nature; so the next best thing is for the Superintendent to have two or more substitutes always on hand, to serve a month at a time, who will be ready at the beckoning of a finger to respond and take the vacant classes, without a ripple of interruption to anything which is going on.

The Sunday School teacher is in danger of being discouraged by pressing upon him too high a standard of attainment.

An "Institute," or an "Assembly" is as apt to depress as to stimulate a faithful teacher. Other things being equal, high culture and extensive attainments are desirable; but the large majority of our teachers are, and must be, men and women who are fully engaged in business and domestic cares, and have not four, five or six hours a day to devote to the study of the lesson.

It is said, that, in order to hold scholars from the grammar and high schools in our classes, we must have teachers who are cultivated and scholarly; but teachers in such schools make teaching a profession, they have prepared for it, and have nothing else to do but to teach. On the contrary, our Sunday School teachers are crowded with business and care, and are able to devote only a little time each day to the study of the lesson.

Are they to give up their classes because they can bring to them only warm, loving hearts, and an intelligent acquaintance with the Bible, and are not acquainted with all the historical and geographical lore which surrounds every lesson?

No! a teacher with an earnest heart, a mind well stored with Bible knowledge, and an experience in every-day life to draw from, is among the best and most useful.

The Bible is of all books the great classic. The teacher who can prove the truth of his lesson by reference to other parts of the Bible, and who draws his illustrations from the Scriptures, does better than if he could cite the choicest of Greek and Roman classics, and is a teacher who need not be ashamed of his work.

As to geography and history, it is quite as important to be able to point out with accuracy the shortest road to heaven, as to be able to give the most direct route from Egypt to Canaan; quite as important to assert the claims of the present reigning King of Earth and Heaven, who knows every loyal heart, and never forgets them, as to tell exactly the name and title of the monarch who arose in Egypt and knew not Joseph.

Teachers should not have too large classes, not more than six, if under fifteen years of age. When instruction and discipline have to be combined, the fewer the better. If he has one mischievous scholar, who unsettles all the rest, and becomes a controlling discordant element, he should get the superintendent to promote him into a class two or three years older than himself, where he will be controlled by superior age and decorum. Many a young colt, full of fire and bent on mischief, has thus been transformed into as steady a horse as was ever driven to church by an old deacon. This promotion of a troublesome scholar may sometimes be done so neatly and skillfully, as that the boy may never know to what happy combination of circumstances he owes his elevation.

No teacher should rest until every scholar in his class is converted. He should set the Christian members praying with him for the others, and thus have as many little prayer meetings as there are classes in the school. As one after another is brought to Christ, and looks to the teacher for help, a new set of faculties and experiences will be drawn upon in instructing and guiding the young disciple, so that his feet may be steady, his head level, and his heart and hands may be engaged in Christian work, from the very beginning of his Christian life.

Newton Sunday School Union.

The annual meeting of the Sunday School Union took place at the Baptist Church, Newton Centre, on Sunday evening. President A. B. Earle occupied the chair.

The five selected essays were read by C. E. Eddy, jr., Esq. The committee, Messrs, Rev. B. K. Pierce, Hon. J. C. Park, Rev. Mr. Braistlin, Prof. J. K. Richardson and W. S. Slocum, Esq., on opening the envelope containing the name of the writer of the essay deemed the best, found it to have been written by D. E. Snow, Esq. The second best essay proved to have been written by the same gentleman, and as the prize essay has been published, we present the second, for our readers' perusal.

"The relations of the Sunday School to the community in which it is located, are very important, and its influence for good cannot be easily over-estimated.

1st. Its relation to the Christian family.

The average Christian family practically does very little in the positive, direct, and systematic teaching of its children in matters of religion.

No catechism is used by any, no lessons are required to be recited, no regular system of explaining the Bible is pursued.

Some parents fail to instruct their children because they have never learned how to do it, some because of lack of time, some because they prefer that the Sunday School should do it, thus leaving the little ones at home to pick up what they can find in this direction, and improve only under the general influence of the family.

The Sunday School takes these children and gives them a lesson to learn and recite, and brings to bear upon them a positive influence whose aim is to lead them to Christ. The parents are stirred up more or less to aid the children about their teachers and the lessons, awakens a new interest in the hearts of the parents.

2. Its relations to non-Christian families.

Children in these families would grow up in ignorance of divine things, except such as they would learn from public worship, in an occasional attendance at church with their parents.

Not learning anything at home on this subject, on entering Sunday School, they come at once under the care of a warm-hearted Christian teacher, who explains the way of salvation, urges the children to accept of Christ, and conveys much Bible knowledge into their minds. The child enters upon a new world, and becomes a missionary to the non-religious home, conveying the Gospel thus fresh and warm from the school, and embodied in the lessons to be learned and recited every Sunday. Many such a child has led its father to Christ.

3. Its relation to non church going families

It is a part of the work of the Sunday School to gather in all the children who do not already attend some school.

The non church going parent rarely refuses to let his child go to Sunday School. He rather likes the attention which such an invitation implies to have his children appear well. He does not wish them to follow in his footsteps. He generally becomes interested in what they study, in the books and papers they bring home, in the little songs they sing, and occasionally he will go of an evening to a Sunday School concert, especially if the children are to have any part in it. By and by the Gospel is sung and talked into his mind, so that he will be drawn occasionally, and perhaps constantly, to attend church.

4th. Its relation to the lowest and most vicious families in the community.

In a family where vice or intemperance prevails, there is often one, if not more, of the children, who is susceptible to influence for good. If obtained for the Sunday School, they carry home thoughts and ideas which tend to awaken conscience, and exert a restraining influence over the parents.

The presence of the Sunday School teacher at the home of such families, is the presence of Christianity itself, and must be a reproof of their wickedness, if not a means of reclaiming them.

Thus they find that although the respectable and virtuous avoid them, the children's teacher visits them, and through the child she gets access to the hearts of the parents, however hard they may be.

5th. Its relation to the community generally.

The Sunday School turns out from its classes to the world, a rising generation thoroughly imbued with lessons of virtue, morality and religion. What the common school does for the intellect, the Sunday School does for the heart and life.

Its pure streams are pouring out constantly into the wicked world, and they tend to purify all the gradations of society, and make the average condition much higher than it would otherwise be.

Many a boy and girl from the lowest families have been saved from their surroundings, and have grown up virtuous, respected and useful, not only saving the community from the results of a course of vice and crime from which they have been delivered, but becoming useful in reclaiming others from a similar life.

Not only does the Sunday School induce people to attend church, and obtain the long line of blessings which that implies, but in a new or neglected community, it grows into a church by a natural development.

Many a church building with its spire pointing heavenward to-day, could never have been built but for the little gathering of children in the Sunday School.

Many a church of Christ, sending out its great stream of influence to-day, to bless the world, may be traced back to a little spring composed of a few children gathered from humble homes, by a few devoted teachers, and instructed concerning Christ and salvation.

Our own city of Newton has a notable illustration of this. The church at North Newton, under the pastoral care of our respected and honored brother, Rev. Samuel E. Lowry, had its humble origin in a little Sunday School gathered on the green grass, under the blue dome, and the rustling of the leaves on a bright summer's day. Our brother, then a layman and a clerk, superintended it.

It went from the open air into the depot, then into the house of a good Scotch lady, then into a chapel of its own.

Then came preaching of the Word, then an enlarged chapel, then a church and pastor, then a fire, and the erection of the present substantial stone edifice, whose bell to-day rings out its call to worship, when formerly only a tin horn, and later the factory bell called the people to labor.

That church has sent out each year in its history, Christian workers, who are now engaged elsewhere in Sunday School and church work.

Thus the Sunday School is a great civilizer and Christianizer of the community in which it dwells. Through the Sunday School, these are some of the "blessings which Christianity scatters on the way on her sublime march to immortality."

BY F. T. WHITMAN.

Heads we use for what they produce—thoughts and plans. In this sense we hear of empty heads, full heads, thick heads, soft heads, hard heads, deep heads, shallow heads, young heads, and old heads.

A hood clothes the head. It denotes, also, surroundings, condition, character, and expression of thought. Thus we say, hoodwinked, falsehood, childhood, manhood. We may have, therefore, young heads in womanhood, soft heads in hardihood, block-heads in boyhood, deep heads in widowhood, doughheads in manhood, and old heads in new hoods.

We like to see the old heads and tried friends in the Sunday-school. I do not now refer to the elderly Bible classes, nor to Deacon Jones and Deacon Smith—we are always glad to greet them in our classes—but to those old and heavenly thoughts and principles which our Lord Jesus taught and practiced long years ago. He, the great Teacher, gave very few new principles of action to the world. We can find the most of His teachings, in germ, among Moses' writings, in the Psalms, or the Prophets. Christ's great work was to clothe in new forms and practical life those abstract truths, to break the shell, and give hungry souls the meat of the Scriptures in the language and imagery of daily life, as well as by the example of His own. He gave a new meaning to old, worn-out adages, and freshness to the then stale forms of worship; just as God, in nature's great laboratory, condenses carbon and iron into fruits, oxygen and hydrogen into sweet spring water, and many chemicals into the fragrant essences breathed forth by the rose, the pink, and the lily. They all wither and die every autumn, yet God prepares those old, much-needed chemicals in new and beautiful clothes each year.

The great demand of our day for something new, is not so much for new truths as for some new method of expressing and manner of exhibiting those that are old, and tried, and loved. Hymns and psalms, over which our grandfathers and mothers wept and prayed, we delight to hear repeated.

When the barbarians sacked Rome, they broke down beautiful marble statuary and ancient sculpture, to fill the foundation trenches for their new wall, but when that great wall had crumbled away, those same old pieces of classic art, though marred and broken, were eagerly sought and highly prized; in like manner these beautiful principles and soul-nourishing thoughts that have withstood skepticism and the crucial test of ages, those heaven-born manifestations of righteousness that fed the souls of men like Paul, Luther and Judson, are dearer to us to-day than ever before.

As long as human nature has the same soul-yearnings for the pure and the true, hungerings and thirstings after righteousness, so long will our Sunday-school classes call for the same "bread" and "water" from heaven, and the same "milk" of the Word that Jesus and John gave eighteen hundred years ago. But though we need the same elements every returning day to repair our wasting strength, it is pleasant to have them served in new, delicious dishes. Even angels' food would soon grow stale to us. We use the woolly coat that was the sheep's last year's cast-off clothing, and make it over into neat and tasteful hoods. In like manner let us work over the teachings of sacred Revelation into the precepts and practices of every-day life. "You will express yourself exceedingly well," says Horace, "if a skillful combination should give an air of novelty to a well-known word." Hats and bonnets are often made over to suit the prevailing style. Work over those rich, living, burning truths and teachings of the old Bible into stories and lessons adapted to our times. Never explain to children a doctrine by the use of such words as foreordination, predestination, atonement, free moral agency, or total depravity—words that might have meant much to Calvin, Jerome, and Edwards, but which you have never been able to satisfactorily define, and which will prove as meaningless to your class as they are to yourself.

The great demand of our day is, also, for new methods of teaching. The catechism, with its questions and printed answers, has done its work, and has done it well; so have the foot-stoves and sounding-boards of our old churches. Now we need furnaces and organs.

When the barbarians take the places of the old—picture cards, blackboards, concerts, and, best of all, wise, well-trained teachers, who can tell an old story or deep doctrine in such simple, practical lan-

guage that the class will remember it, as we remember the melody of a song, long after the words and the singer have been forgotten.

Look at those dainty, elegant new hoods. How attractive! What a warm, cheerful, happy impression they give us; wonderfully increased when we see some bright, familiar face smiling from beneath. The new hood does not cause us to forget the wearer; it rather leads us to notice our young friend. In like manner, new methods, instead of concealing old truths, will rather bring them into notice. "But," says some dear, aged worker, "I like the old Bible. Now it has been fifty years since I gave my heart to Christ, yet I never hear that story of Jacob and Esau without weeping. Put more Bible into the school; that's my idea." So I say; or rather, put Bible into the scholars in practice rather than precept. It is blessed to *know*, but more blessed to *do*. The modern Sunday-school,—

"Which leads to bustling ways of toil and thought,
With modern views and faithful fancies fraught,"

must not be caged into the confines of the class-room. Its work should be as free as youth. In dark alleys and godless humes let it search out neglected children. Let it take bread, medicine, and love to the little sufferer, hats and boots to the gamin, the pardon of Christ to the degraded prisoner in his cell. It needs papers, books, helps and teachers. Yes! And it needs, also, some new hoods—water, soap, and combs for homeless children; bread, meat and coffee for the hungry; pleasant rooms and nurses for the sick; and loving hearts, with tender hands, to place a rosebud in the gold clasp of those sleeping Christ-lambs, with no other friend to weep around their grave. This is the work our blessed Saviour did. He fed, He healed, He taught; and in these new hoods of improved helps in our Sunday-school work, it is not fancy or over-wrought imagination that pictures to my mind some of the old heads of that Sermon on the Mount, or the daily teachings of Him who was "full of grace and truth."

Newton Sunday April 16th 1812
 The 173rd Quarterly meeting of
 the Sunday School Union was called
 to order this evening at 6.30 in the North
 Evangelical Church North Millage,
 by the President J. A. Newell.
 Prayer was offered by the pastor
 Rev L. E. Lowry. The records
 of the last meeting were read
 and approved.
 The Superintendent's report
 as follows

Thompsonville	N. Berice
Whole number	88
Average	62
Contributions	\$7.95
Congregational	N. Highland
Whole number	170
Average	136
Contributions	\$39.14
Teachers' meetings	1
Universalist	N. Lincoln
Whole number	41
Average	136
Contributions	\$4.60
Teachers' meetings	13

Methodist
 Whole num ber
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

Newtonville
 136
 102
 \$29.93
 2

Congregational
 Whole num ber
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

Newtonville
 240
 129
 \$41.30
 3

St Clare's
 Whole num ber
 Average
 Contributions

Lower Falls
 60
 48
 \$70.00

Methodist
 Whole num ber
 Average
 Contributions

Lower Falls
 46
 58
 \$17.37

Unit
 Whole num ber
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers meetings
 Conversions

Newton
 455
 322
 119.33
 2
 2

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	85
Average	67
Contributions	\$51.02
Conversions	2

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	240
Average	132
Contributions	\$70.29
Teachers' meetings	13
Conversions	7

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	145
Average	116
Contributions	\$16.47
Teachers' meetings	3
Conversions	20

Baptist	Newton Centre
Whole number	200
Average	161
Contributions	\$43.32
Teachers' meetings	3
Conversions	6

Congregational	Auburndale
Whole number	265
Average	183
Contributions	\$15.58
Teachers meetings	13
Conversions	1

Congregational	West Newton
Whole number	290
Average	212
Contributions	\$41.10
Teachers meetings	11

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	140
Average	106
Contributions	\$22.08
Conversions	5

Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	121
Average	63
Contributions	\$12.20
Teachers meetings	13

Channing	Newton
Whole number	160
Average	113
Teachers meetings	4

Recapitulation	
Number of Schools Reported	17
Whole number of Scholars	2947
Average attendance	2116
Contributions	\$526.71
Teachers' meetings	76
Conversions	48

The subject for the evening was "What is success in Sunday School work" was ably opened by Rev L. L. Potter of West Newton, followed by an interesting discussion by Mr. Wood, W. F. Rant, Geo. E. Allen, H. A. Gilman, Rev. S. S. Louny, Geo. S. Fowbridge, J. B. Whitman, Ruben Fox Knall, E. B. Clark, A. G. Sherman & Rev. Mrs. Newell.

The remarks were all warm, earnest, spiritual and practical and the subject was very interesting and profitable.

Adjourned to the 3 Sunday in July
 Geo. C. Dunning
 Secretary.

Quarterly Meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union.

At the North Evangelical Church, North Village, last Sabbath evening, the Union held its 173d meeting. In the absence of the President, Mr. A. S. Weed, the Vice President, Mr. J. A. Newell, of West Newton, presided, and the session was liberally attended and proved very interesting. After reading of Scriptures, and prayer by Rev. Mr. Lowry, the address of the evening, upon the topic, "What is success in Sunday school work," was delivered by Rev. L. L. Potter, of West Newton.

He took a very practical view of the subject, and said that, as in olden times, "all roads led to Rome," so now in Sunday school instruction, all should tend to only one end,—instruction in the Bible. Many obtain the false idea that the school is established merely as a place in which to while away an hour. Teachers too often amuse their pupils with stories, entirely irrelevant to the subject in hand and, moreover, with no moral to them. He considered the work of the teachers the grandest imaginable, and cautioned them to see to it that no opportunity was wasted to impress the minds of pupils with the gospel and its truths. The speaker referred to the aid the Holy Spirit furnished to the teacher in his work, expressed great confidence in "Lesson Helps," but deprecated the practice often indulged in of allowing them to do all the work.

His address was finely illustrated with entertaining incidents, and he was followed in general discussion by Messrs. H. J. Woods, W. F. Rand, G. E. Allen, G. D. Gilman, Rev. S. E. Lowry, G. S. Trowbridge, J. B. Whitmore, Reuben Forkuall, E. B. Earle, A. G. Sherman and J. A. Newell.

To the remarks of Mr. Rand, that great care should be taken that no inexperienced teacher be given charge of a Bible class, the Rev. Mr. Potter replied that the choice of teachers ought not always to depend upon experience or knowledge as much as upon spirit and interest; and he related a very interesting anecdote finely illustrating his point.

NEWTON SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

A Quarterly Meeting of the Union will be held

Sunday Evening, July 16th,

At 6.30 o'clock, in

ST. MARY'S CHURCH,

NEWTON LOWER FALLS.

SUBJECT: "Thomas in the Sunday School."

Essayist: Rev. C. E. NASH, of Newtonville.

The public are cordially invited.

GEO. C. DUNNE,
Secretary.

July 15

Newton Sunday July 16th 1882.
 The 1st 4 Quarterly meeting
 of the Newton Sunday School Union
 was called to order this evening at
 6.30 in St. Mary's Church Newton
 Lower Falls. President A. S. Weed
 in the chair. After reading
 selections of Scripture, Prayer was
 offered by Rev Henry Mackay
 Rector of the Church.

The records of the last meeting
 were read and approved.

The Superintendents presented
 their reports as follows

Congregational	West Newton
Whole number	320
Average attendance	210
Contributions	\$33.30
Teacher's meetings	10

Baptist	West Newton
Whole number	140
Average	112
Contributions	\$22.53
Conversions	3

See Feb 22.53 Special 50.00

Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	109
Average	58
Contributions	\$12.69

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	135
Average	98
Contributions	\$17.03

Methodist	Lower Falls
Whole number	75
Average	53
Contributions	\$15.87

St. Clare's	Lower Falls
Whole number	60
Average	40
Contributions	\$12.00

Channing	Newton
Whole number	160
Average	113
Teachers' meetings	4

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	89
Average	60
Contributions	\$16.80

Epist	Newton
Whole number	411
Average	299
Contributions	\$91
Teachers meetings	3
Conversions	1

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	205
Average	143
Contributions	\$45.28
Teachers meetings	6
Conversions	2

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	224
Average	142
Contributions	\$15.69
Teachers meetings	3
Conversions	2

Methodist	Newtonville
Whole number	140
Average	93
Contributions	\$25.41

Congregational	Newtonville
Whole number	266
Average	160
Contributions	\$45.67

Unitarian	Newton Centre
Whole number	49
Average	49
Contributions	\$4.67
Universalist	Newtownville
Whole number	73
Average	60
Contributions	\$41.45
Teacher's meetings	4
Thompsonville	Newton Centre
Whole number	75
Average	55
Contributions	\$6.00
Baptist	Newton Centre
Whole number	200
Average	150
Contributions	\$19.07
Teacher's meetings	3
Congregational	Arbundale
Whole number	265
Average	188
Contributions	\$18.53
Teacher's meetings	12

Recapitulation	
Number of Schools reported	18
Whole number of Scholars	3017
Average attendance	2083
Contributions	\$495.99
Teachers' Meetings	45
Conversions	8

Pres. Reed then introduced the
 Rev. C. E. Nash of Newtonville
 who opened the subject of discussion
 "Thomas in the Sunday School."

It was an able address on
 the doubt and unbelief in the Sunday
 School. A printed report is filed
 with the records.

The discussion
 was continued by S. D. Gilman
 J. A. Newell, C. O. Bullock
 Otis Bowen & the Rev. Henry Mac-
 Kay. The choir of the Church
 sang an opening and closing
 anthem.

Adjourned to the third
 Sunday in Oct.

Geo. C. Dyre
 Secretary.

*From the Newton Journal
prepared by the Secretary*

**Quarterly Meeting of the Newton
Sunday School Union---Skepti-
cism in the Sabbath School.**

The one hundred and seventy-fourth quarterly meeting of the Union took place last Sunday evening in St. Mary's church, Lower Falls. President A. S. Weed occupied the chair and after reading a chapter from the Bible, called on the Rector, Rev. Henry Mackay, to lead in prayer.

The Superintendents of the various schools then presented their reports. Rev. C. E. Nash of Newtonville was introduced and opened the subject of discussion, "Thomas in the Sunday School." He said he attended a meeting of the Union not long ago when Mr. Calkins delivered an able essay on "The Bible and how to read it," and went away impressed with the many able and valuable hints there given. The Bible becomes interesting, not by intellectual knowledge, but by the experience of the heart. We sometimes call it the *new birth*, and he liked that name; the truth concerning a man's soul and how to make it right. The skeptic is further from God than any other sinner. This skeptic is in the Sunday School. He has read a little skepticism and knows a great deal about Ingersoll, etc. The teacher must meet these inquiries honestly. I wish our pastors, he continued, could have a plan to instruct their teachers on the current thoughts of the day, for the teacher will have to meet these inquiries and he will be required to say whether this or that is so or not. I would never answer a skeptic until I heard his question. I am of the opinion that the best way to meet an unbeliever is to have faith and believe. A man whose faith is settled because he has looked into it himself is capable of producing an effect that no one else can. His experience, his testimony is convincing. Faith means in the New Testament *faithful*. The skepticism of to-day is due a great deal to the unfaithfulness of church members. The teacher's strong hold will be to point to what he has in his heart. A teacher that talks temperance and drinks on the sly cannot do that; but a godly teacher is a power in his life. Thomas may probe me, but I would satisfy him myself by my life. I believe in the future skepticism will be a question of great importance in our churches.

Mr. G. D. Gilman said it was not every teacher who can post himself on Tyndall and other writers, but he would lay the stress on the faith. The power of a living faith cannot be estimated.

Mr. J. A. Newell said Thomas was not a scholar in the Sunday School—he was a disciple, a teacher. The trouble is with the skeptical teachers in our schools and not with the children.

Mr. E. O. Bullock said he would like to ask the primary teachers, the teachers of the younger classes, if they ever found unbelievers among the children. Did they ever find Thomas in their classes when their hearts were warm? We allow our children to go out of the Sunday School and then they become Thomases. If we had spent half the time with the children that we do to reform the drunkard after the seed is sown, the results would be greater. Children are not doubters, so get them in the church while they are young.

The discussion was continued by Rev. Henry Mackay and Otis Bowen. The choir of the church sang an opening and closing anthem. The meeting was one of deep interest.

Newton Sunday Oct 15th 1882.

The 175 Quarterly meeting of the "Newton Sunday School Union" was called to order this evening at 6:30 in the Congregational Church West Newton. Pres A. S. Reed in the Chair. After reading Feb 12th prayer was offered by the Rev H. J. Patrick, pastor of the Church. The Records of the last meeting were read and approved. The following Superintendents reports were then read.

Congregational	West Newton
Whole number	320
Average	182
Contributions	\$155.55
Teacher's meetings	8

Baptist	West Newton
Whole number	130
Average	95
Contributions	\$6.61
Conversions	2

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	80
Average	42
Contributions	\$17.54

Eliot	Newton
Whole number	412
Average	241
Contributions	\$50.55
Teachers meetings	2
Conversions	1

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	194
Average	123
Contributions	\$21.11
Teachers' meetings	4
Conversions	1

Channing	Newton
Whole number	150
Average	100
Teacher's meetings	2

Methodist	Auburndale
Whole number	120
Average	85
Contributions	\$5.85
Teachers meetings	5
Conversions	9

Unitarian	Newton Centre
Whole number	69
Average	35
Contributions	\$1.64

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers' meetings

Auburndale
 265
 120
 83.01
 9

Universalist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers meetings

Newtonville
 73
 53
 \$26.83
 13

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

Newtonville
 240
 128
 \$16.96
 2

Thompsonville
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Newton Centre
 75
 57
 \$11.45

Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers' meetings
 Conversions

Upper Falls
 93
 52
 \$8.85
 13
 1

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	140
Average	93
Contributions	\$11.97

Methodist	Newtonville
Whole number	140
Average	74
Contributions	\$14.58

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	228
Average	135
Contributions	\$19.54

Recapitulation	
No. of schools reported	16
Whole number of scholars	2429
Average attendance	1609
Contributions	\$452.04
Teachers' meetings	56
Conversions	16

The following letter from the Rev Henry Mackay resigning the office of Director of the Union was read by the Secretary and accepted.

NEWTON LOWER FALLS, MASS.,

October 11th, 1882.

MY DEAR MR. DUNNE:—I had hoped to be with you at the coming meeting of the Sunday School Union, but cannot, as I have undertaken to minister for a sick clergyman on that day, which I greatly regret. And, as I am to be denied this, let me say to the members of the Union who are so liberal, so united and harmonious in their efforts for the promotion of godliness among the young, that I part with them with sincere regret. It is one of the principal things which I will miss. But a wider field calls me hence—a field, too, where the work to be done is very much and very great, and the laborers are few. The Union is, I believe, unique. With so many and variant theological opinions, the good-will and fellowship, the harmony which characterize the workers are, I must say, as unique as lovely. May the good Lord continue these Christian qualities among you, and deepen, and broaden, and strengthen you all in these Christian graces. And may the work prosper more and more, and extend its influences through the children, until your whole city will be leavened with the pure and undefiled Gospel of the Son of God, whose life as a Child, as Man, as Friend and Teacher and Redeemer are before us as examples. Permit me to resign the office you honored and entrusted me with, a Director in the Union. Good-by. God bless you.

Yours fraternally,

H. MACKAY.

The following Resolutions were presented by Mr. D. E. Snow of Newton and unanimously passed.

Mr. D. E. Snow said he felt sorry that Mr. Mackay was to leave the city and he desired to offer the following resolutions.

Whereas, Our beloved brother Rev. Henry Mackay, Rector of St. Mary's Church, Newton Lower Falls, is about to remove to Emporia, Kansas;—Therefore be it

Resolved, That we deeply regret the loss we shall sustain in the removal of our brother to a distant State; that we fully appreciate the valuable services he has rendered the Newton Sunday School Union, as its President, as a Director, and a ready helper at all times in its work; that he has endeared himself to us by his wide and Catholic spirit, his geniality as a friend, his earnestness as a Christian, and his devotion to the cause of Sunday Schools and the interests of the young.

Resolved, That we pledge to him our best wishes and earnest prayers, that in his new field of labor God may abundantly bless him and make him greatly useful and very happy in his new and important work.

Resolved, That these resolutions be entered upon the records of the Union and a copy be sent to Brother Mackay.

After singing by the Choir
Bro. (Fred) introduced the Rev.
J. H. Bushford of Auburndale
we read an Essay on "The Pro-
vidential Place of the Sunday

School in America" and remarks followed by Rev. H. J. Patrick, Geo. S. Harwood & W. C. Strong.

The Choir of the Church under the direction of J. Eliot Fowbridge rendered excellent music during the evening. Adjourned to the third Sunday in July.

Meeting of the Sunday School Union.

The quarterly meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union was held Sunday evening at the Second Congregational church. President A. S. Weed in the chair. After the reports from the schools had been received, a farewell letter was read from Rev. Henry Mackay of St. Mary's Episcopal church, Lower Falls, on his departure for Emporia, Kansas; and resolutions of regret at his removal were presented by D. E. Snow and adopted. An essay on "The Providential Place of the Sunday School in America," read by Rev. J. W. Bashford of the Centenary Methodist church, Auburndale, was listened to with close attention. The essayist sketched the course of study followed by the common schools in the country, from the landing of the Pilgrims in 1620 to the close of the revolution in 1781, showing it to have been, with the exception of the spelling book, of a wholly religious character. At the close of the struggle for independence, a state religion being incompatible with the full freedom for which the colonies had contended, a divorce of church and state inevitably followed. For the past hundred years religious teaching has been gradually eliminated from the common schools, until today the reading of a chapter from the Bible, without explanation, repetition of a prayer from memory, are the only reminders of the strict training of a century ago. But the religious element was not lost in this revolution. About the year 1780, certain persons in Roxbury, Mass. in Pennsylvania, and other parts of the colonies, had conceived the idea of gathering the children together upon the Sabbath for religious instruction. These Sunday schools, growing from small beginnings, multiplied rapidly as the want became more and more evident in the change of the common school-system. The influence of these teachings,—the larger proportion of additions to the church being made from the Sunday school,—and the advantages derived from early instruction in the truth, were dwelt upon, and the essay closed with an urgent entreaty to young and old to give their hearty aid to the work.

Rev. H. J. Patrick spoke of the lasting influence of a Sunday school training, and thought this one source of the strength and faithfulness of our army during the late war; relating some personal experiences while he was serving on the United States Christian Commission. George S. Harwood and W. C. Strong followed. The meeting was a very enjoyable one.

Geo. B. Duane

Secretary

Newton Jan 21st 1883.
 The 44 Annual Meeting of the
 Newton Sunday School Union was
 held this evening at 6.30 in
 Channing Church. President Weed
 in the Chair. After singing and
 reading of the Scriptures, Prayer was
 offered by Rev F. D. Hornbrooke pastor
 of the Church.

Records of the last meeting were
 read and approved. The Secretary
 and Treasurer presented his Annual
 reports and they were accepted.
 The Superintendent reported
 from twenty schools as follows.

Unitarian	S. Centre
Whole number	70
Coverage	44
Contributions	\$11.09
Thompsonville	S. Centre
Whole number	41
Coverage	57
Contributions	\$4.62
Congregational	Highlands
Whole number	100
Coverage	126
Contributions	\$44.66

Baptist
Whole number
Average
Contributions
Teachers' meetings
Conversions

S. Centre
248
180
\$47.60
3.
3

Baptist
Whole number
Average
Contributions

Upper Falls
94
56
\$12.13

Methodist
Whole number
Average
Contributions
Conversions

Upper Falls
144
107
14.87
3

St. Mary's
Whole number
Average
Contributions

Lower Falls
53
35
\$18.22

Methodist
Whole number
Average
Contributions
Conversions

Lower Falls
84
66
16.33
3

Congregational
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers meetings

Auburndale
 292
 185
 92.41
 13

Methodist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers meetings

Auburndale
 140
 95
 \$20.
 2

Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

West Newton
 140
 110
 \$15.47
 4

Congregational
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers meetings

W. Newton
 320
 227
 56.47
 10

Universalist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers meetings

Newtonville
 82
 64
 \$69.56
 13

Methodist	Newtonville
Whole number	140
Average	96
Contributions	\$19.24

Congregational	Newtonville
Whole number	240
Average	160
Contributions	\$42.87

North Evangelical	Newtonville
Whole number	225
Average	164
Contributions	\$23.95
Teacher's meetings	3
Conversions	3

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	85
Average	56
Contributions	\$27.74

Chist	Newton
Whole number	424
Average	284
Contributions	\$211.59
Teacher's meetings	3
Conversions	1

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	495
Average	158
Contributions	\$55.46

Channing	Newton
Whole number	160
Average	137
Contributions	150
Teachers meetings	6

Recapitulation	
No of schools reported	20
Whole number of scholars	3407
Average attendance	240.4
Contributions	\$961.26
Teachers meetings	53.
Conversions	20

The Superintendents retired
and reported the following Officers
for the ensuing year.

For President Winfield S. Hocum of Newtonville
Vice Pres Stephen Moore of Newton
Secretary & Treasurer Geo. A. Dunne

Directors } A. P. Wells of Newton
 } W. D. Sylvester of Newtonville

While the Lufts were out Pres Weed called on Rev C. E. Nash & Rev J. B. Hornbrook & they addressed the Union.

The subject for discussion "What are our Children Reading?" was ably opened by Hon Miss W. Bicknell of Boston. A printed report is filed with the records. He was followed by the Rev A. C. Lawrence Chairman of the School Committee.

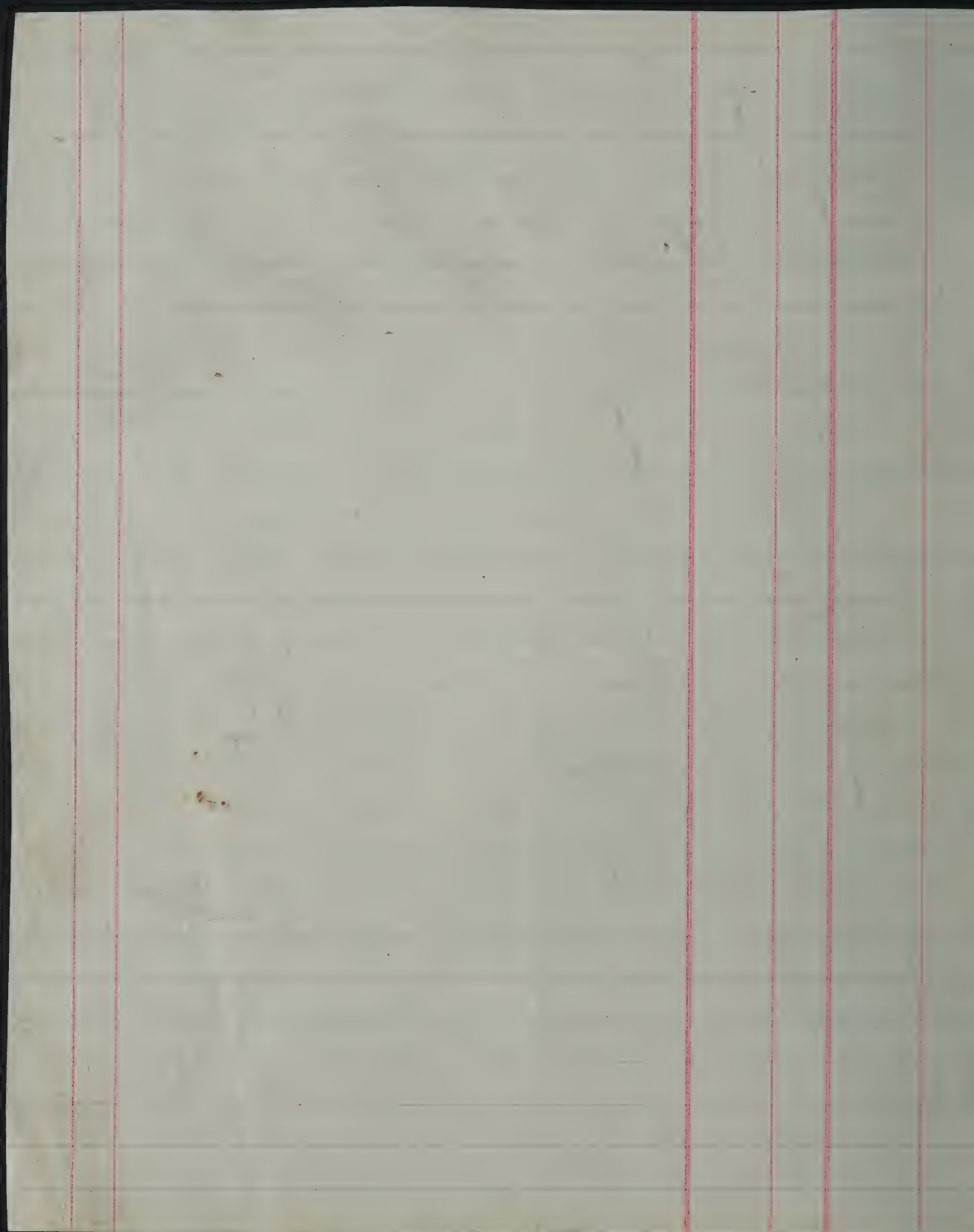
On motion of Rev Mr Nash it was voted that the same subject be continued at the next meeting.

On motion the thanks of the Union were presented to Miss Bicknell for his very able address.

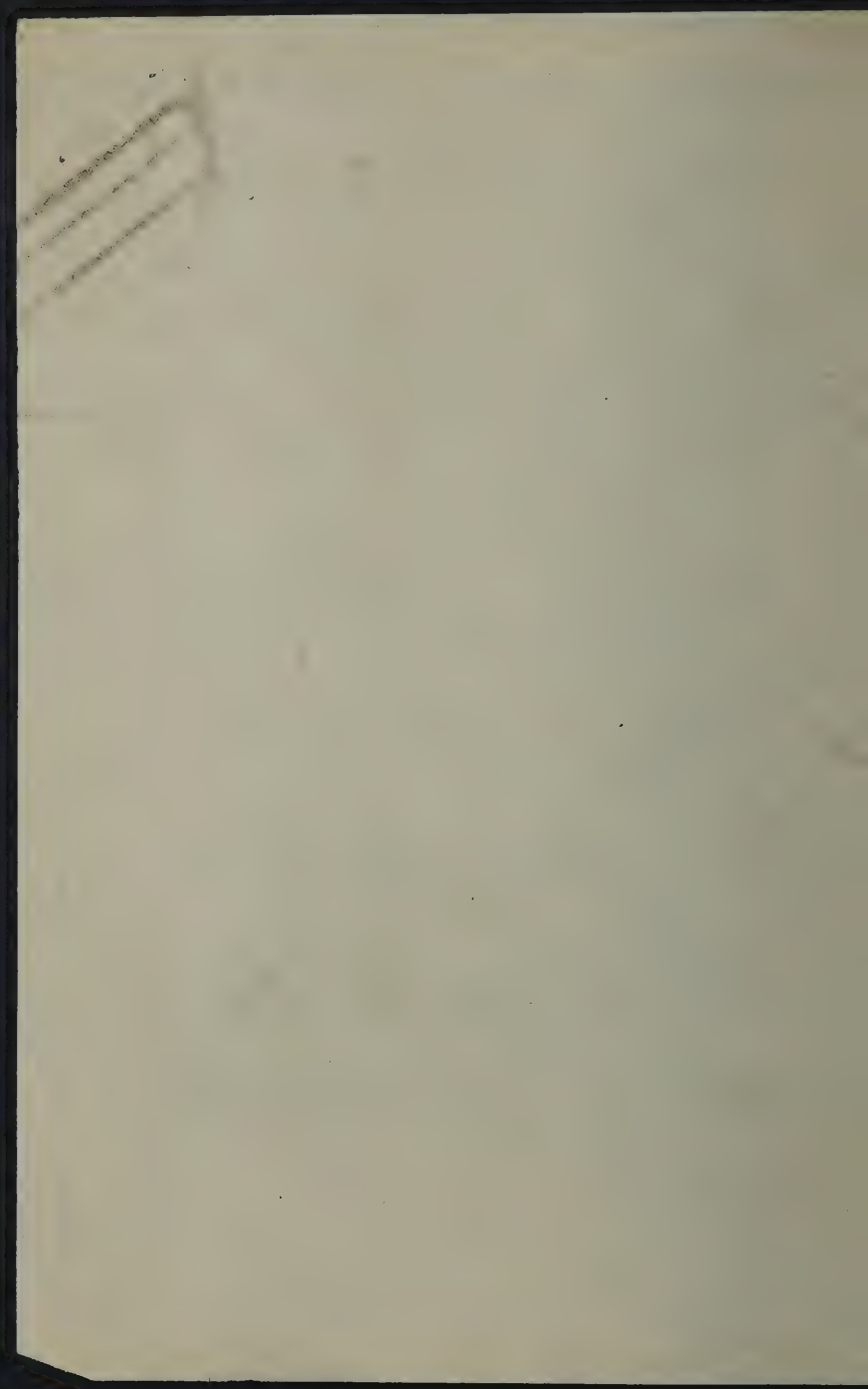
On motion we adjourned to third Sunday in April

Geo C Dunne
Secretary.

x	Eliot School		Newton
1	Bapt	Report x	"
x	Channing		"
9	Methodist		"
x	North Evangelical		Conantun
x	Congregational		Newtonville
x	Universalist		"
9	Methodist		"
9	Baptist		West Newton
1	Congl	x	"
1	Congl	x	Arbundale
1	Methodist	x	Lower Falls
1	St Marys	x	"
4	Methodist	✓	Upper Falls
1	Baptist	x	"
1	Congl	x	Newton Highlands
1	Unitarian	x	Newton Centre
4	Clyde	x	West Newton
1	Methodist	x	Arbundale
			Conantun

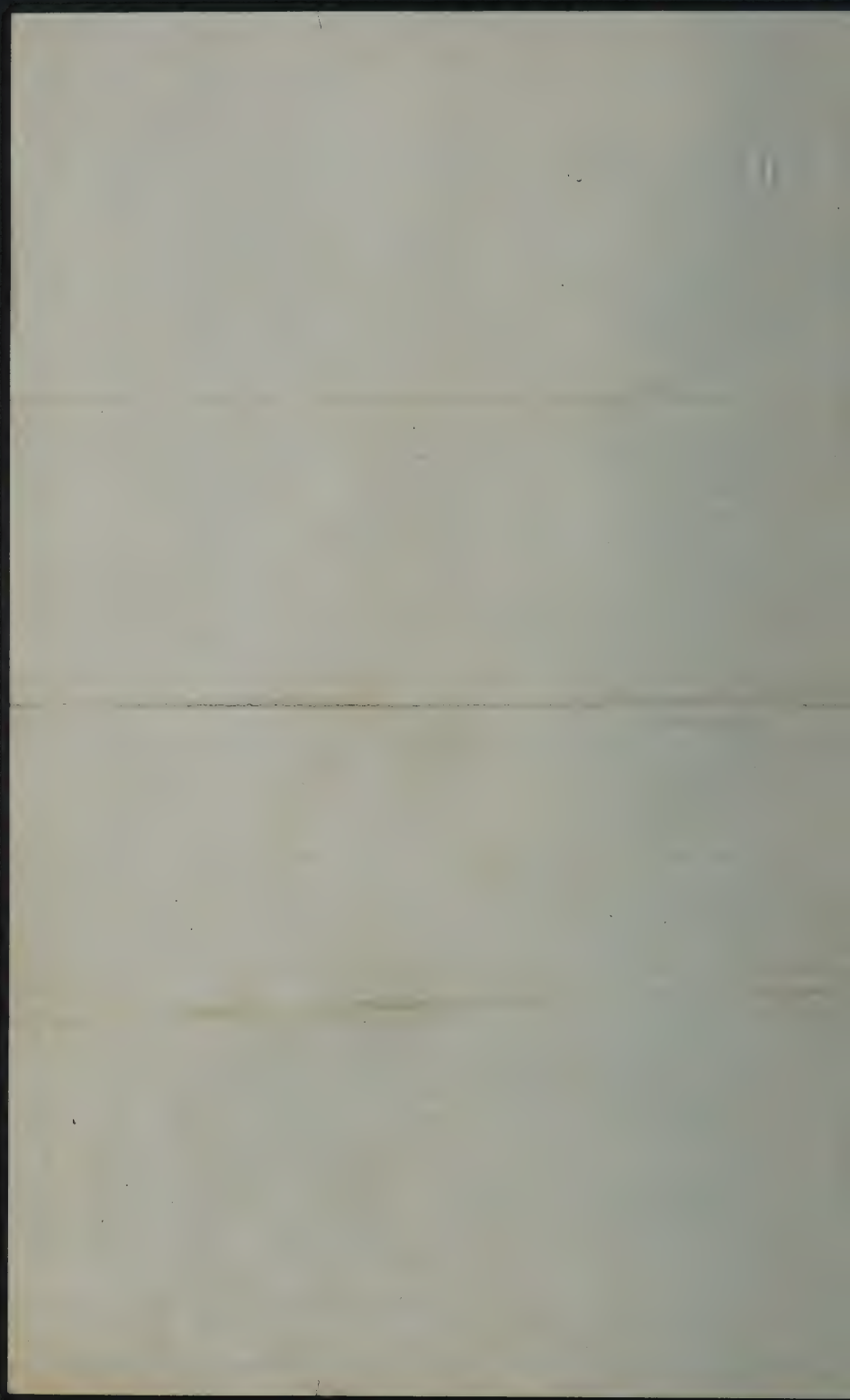


Channing N. Chas. A. Dace Supt.
 Meth. N D. F. Barber "
 North End Newton R. Fiskell "
 Meth Newtonville G. H. Loomis.
 Central " F. W. Gaffield.
 Universalist " E. B. Melcham
 Cong. & W. N. E. A. Marsh.
 Myrtle Baptist W. N. Fred Euman
 1st Baptist W. N. K. A. Euman.
 Cong Auburnle C. H. Johnson.
 Meth " F. F. Davidson
 " Lower Falls. J. B. Gull
 " Upper Falls. A. J. Grover.
 Baptist " " F. W. Emerson
 Cong North Highlands G. H. Coffin
 W. B. Wood
 Lu. G. G. Phipps



Seymour - Sanford Lee - R
 B. W. Benson
 H. C. C. C. C. C. C.
 J. N. C. C. C. C. C.
 J. N. C. C. C. C. C.
 M. S. Rice
 A. B. C. C. C.
 Gordon R. C. C. C.
 F. A. C. C. C.
 Henry E. C. C. C.
 J. N. C. C. C. C. C.
 Geo. J. C. C. C. C.
 Geo. H. C. C. C. C.
 E. J. C. C. C. C. C.
 D. E. C. C. C. C. C.
 E. B. C. C. C. C. C.
 Geo. C. C. C. C. C.

Jan 20 1868
 July 18 1868
 Jan 18 1878
 Jan 18 1878



Annual Meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union---The Address of Rev. Thomas W. Bicknell, L. L. D., of Boston.

The annual meeting of the Union took place at Channing Church last Sabbath evening. The attendance was large and the subject of discussion deeply interesting. The essay of Hon. Thomas W. Bicknell, L. L. D. of the New England *Journal of Education*, was masterly and valuable, and we publish herewith a liberal abstract. The Union wisely voted to extend its discussion until the next meeting, after a few remarks had been made relative thereto by Messrs. Revs. Hornbrooke, Nash and Lawrence.

The annual report of the Secretary, Mr. Geo. C. Dunne, showed the membership of the Union to be 22 schools; having a total membership of 3,407, average attendance, 2404; contributions, \$2435.98; conversions, 92; teachers' meetings, 230; receipts during the year, including balance on hand at beginning, \$85.39; expenditures, \$50.58; balance on hand, \$34.81. The following officers were chosen for the ensuing year: President, W. S. Slocum; Vice President, Stephen Moore; Secretary and Treasurer, G. C. Dunne; Directors, H. B. Wells and A. T. Sylvester.

THE ADDRESS.

Dr. Bicknell began his address by referring to childhood as the sunny side of Christian education and quoted Mr. Scudder as saying that all great movements in the elevation of society begin with children. He said that we are in the midst of a great religious Renaissance of which, as in the times of Fröbel and Jesus, the Christ, a little child is the object lesson. The speaker's attention was drawn to the study of what our children are reading by certain cases of juvenile crimes, notably a fratricide in Springfield, where it was clearly manifest that bad books had done the work of destruction. He also cited the interview of James T. Fields with the child murderer, Pomeroy, who declared, "I couldn't help it, when the wheels go round up here!" putting his hand on his head. So in all juvenile and adult crimes, when the wheels of passion are set in motion, it is impossible to tell the direction, the velocity or the result of the momentum.

The mind, and child-mind especially, he said, is both acquisitive and inquisitive. The sources of its growth are from without and within. The external world, with all its varied forces and agencies, contributes to the development and expansion of the powers which centre in the mental and moral character. Like the body, the mind and soul need food. As the body, they receive, digest, assimilate and incorporate whatever the laws of demand and supply may secure. A healthy growth, as in the physical structure, depends on health-giving, life-creating energy in the supply. A dwarfed and sickly development springs from insufficient, improper or poisonous elements, administered unconsciously or ignorantly. Healthy trees and choice fruits grow where sun, air and soil combine in largest measure for the production of a perfect creation in the vegetable world. Poisons and poisonous plants luxuriate in damp, cold and dark retreats. Given proper conditions, and proper results follow. Reverse the conditions and you reverse the product, for as long as law reigns and God presides, like will produce like in all His

The verdict of prominent educators and experts in the training of youth is that more than ninety per cent. could be made to withstand temptation and, with preserved virtue and integrity, fight manfully the good fight if they are given a proper early training, with books, teachers and all the saving influences of education. Such a result, then, is worthy the ambition of the Sunday school workers, as assistants to the home circle, in conjunction with the beneficent and social influences of the church.

The aims of the Sunday school and the Christian home are one:—to train for Christian manhood. As the Sunday school is the outgrowth and assistant of such a home, the agents for the upbuilding of character in both must be identical.

One of the agencies which is most powerful in making or unmaking the character of our youth is their reading. Books are in fact the best agencies we have for good, and the direct instruments of evil, in the education of children; for children must read. The only query is—What?

How easily the child is introduced to his books! Why, his earliest playthings are alphabet blocks, the keys to all the books of the world. The picture book is the nursery solace, and the reading of this symbolic language of purity and beauty or ugliness and sin is the first lesson of maturer babyhood. With the incoming power to interpret others' thoughts through the printed page, and the certainty that through its influence that little prattling boy or girl may become angel or fiend, have we given such thought as becomes us as educators. Have we with an intelligent zeal sought to direct this little fellow's thoughts in the right channels, or have we by neglect allowed the natural gravity of lower and depraved influences to get possession of the boy's thought through his reading, and allowed his feet to be turned into the sad, dark ways of sin and death?

Mr. Bicknell gave four elements in the influence of a book on child-mind.

1. The book usually runs along the line of the child's choices and tastes.
2. The book fills leisure hours and unoccupied moments.
4. The printed page emphasizes the contents more than the spoken word or the written letter. With these elements the book (1) Directs and controls thought. (2) It determines the choice of companions. (3) It fixes ideals for life.

Methods and purposes of reading were discussed, and the highest end of reading was stated to be that which reaches and controls the springs of moral action. When the book awakens conscience, quickens the sensibilities, regulates feelings, stays passion, motives all good resolves and lifts the soul from a lower to a higher plane of ambition and action, it has done a good work.

The speaker stated that the world was really full of books and papers, and cited the size of libraries and the circulation of the press to show the immense influence of the printed page.

To be able to discriminate between the pure gold in literature and the corrupting and corruptible brass, is one of the hardest tasks of life. To know what to read and how to read is still more difficult.

Dr. McCosh says the really good book "is not the one that thinks for you but the one that makes you think." And we would add that makes one think soberly and righteously in this present world, for it is the bad thinking of men that runs not with their living, and much of this bad thinking comes from the realm of bad books.

A child's reading affects his thought and feeling more than does the reading of man. It is real, however unreal the printed page may be. He clothes every word that he understands with a clear, Anglo Saxon meaning, and every sentence, false though it may be, is as true as Bible Writ to his unsuspecting and indiscriminating mind, and here the danger lies.

He reads of thrilling adventures by land and sea, of hair breadth escapes, of daring exploits, tales of murder, robbery, bold piracy and scandalous love-making, and he becomes the hero of the story, and with a brain fired for equal endeavor.

Garfield, our martyr President, read the child hood tales of the sea, as what boy has not. Instantly a passion for a life on the ocean possessed him, and he went to Cleveland, bent on shipping as a hand before the mast. He boarded a vessel, found some drunken sailors and a captain who looked a drunken beast; he was shocked, turned away, and walked off, partly disillusionized, but not wholly, for the tow path on the canal was needed to sober into real life the fancies and fictions of his boyish brain.

This reading taste may and should be cultivated in early childhood, and should be wisely advised, not absolutely directed. Some advise an unrestrained liberty to children to read anything and everything that may come in their way, believing that maturity will correct the evils begotten in immature minds. Others resort to an exclusive management of childhood, withholding and giving according to the fixed and absolute rule of the parent. It is well if reading habits can be voluntarily and unconsciously formed by children. This can be done only when the home, the school and the Sunday school have good supplies of the best child literature, and also when the child has time as well as a free access to such books as will stimulate his mind aright. Here at the beginning of things the parent and the teacher will do well to take note of the natural choices of the child and learn thereby something of the bent of his mind, as well as of the food which nourishes it. A child should be introduced to a good book as to a friend; he should be told something of its author, and be made acquainted if possible with facts or incidents which may awaken a deeper interest in its contents.

The worst evils that are liable to affect and influence child life arise from two classes of books, the sensational and the sentimental; both of which are found on the shelves of our Sunday school as well as our public libraries. Highly seasoned books destroy the mental appetite quicker than highly seasoned foods do healthy digestion; and vapory sentimentalism is as nourishing as the east wind snuffed by Balaam's ass. Story books and papers and a low grade of cheap novels, scatter a pernicious influence all over our land, and our Sabbath schools are not free from this influence.

If I were to enumerate some of the evils which flow from this sort of literature I would say:

1. A waste of precious time.
2. A weakening of mental fibre.
3. The creation of false and vicious tastes.
4. The working of the memory and of the attention.
5. Superficial habits and vicious methods of reading.
6. The sapping of moral character.

There are novels which paint society in true colors, and portray human character in correct outlines. These may be read, studied and digested as suitable food. No boy or girl was ever made the worse by Scott or Harriet Beecher Stowe, but thousands have been ruined in mental and moral health and growth by the attractive volumes which gild our circulating and even the shelves of our Sunday school libraries. The evil at first is one of habit and habit crystalized is character. Besides the time spent on a bad or a poor book is so much time lost for a good one. A good for a better and a better for a best.

The Sunday school library has, in my judgment, a place and an important one in our religious education. Some deny this and claim that it is of doubtful utility. I would have the Sunday school library (1) As a supplement to the home reading when that is good; (2) as a substitute for it when it is bad, and (3) as a supply when there is none at home. All children have not the same needs, because of their different characters and circumstances. The city boy has his home filled with books and papers; he has access to the large and varied stores in the public library, and he has, possibly, other libraries at his call, besides the bookstores, which last, says Joseph Cook, are not to be neglected, for reading a book with the fingers at a bookseller's stall is an art that should be taught early to youth. The country boys, as you and I were, or may have been, have but a limited home store and they seek in vain for the supplies which the city gives.

Thus the dull city boy or girl, whose minds tend not to books naturally, has greater temptation to vice and crime than has the country boy, and the library of good books at the Sunday school, if brought within his reach, may be often the means of his salvation from sin and death. The Sunday school library should of all be not a collection of but a selection of books, the best and the choicest books of the age, and this would not seem to be a difficult task in the rapid multiplication of new titles. In 1869 Sunday school books were increasing at the rate of two a day, and they probably number three a day at the present time. The number of publishing houses actively engaged in their publication in the United States alone is not less than forty, employing a capital of at least ten millions of dollars. Allowing one book to a scholar in every Sunday school in the United States, we have a sum total of six millions of books in use in our Sunday school libraries.

As to the character of the books which go under the title of juvenile religious literature for our Sunday schools, much may be said in praise and dispraise. Its quantity certainly is voluminous, and its quality is varied enough to suit all tastes. It is a little remarkable that the laws of supply and demand have not had their legitimate sway in the production and consumption of our Sunday school books. For why? Mainly because Sunday school publication societies have been poor, Sunday schools have been poorer, and writers have been poorer still. Many good people have written what some benevolent and friendly critic called a good book, and the MS. was sent to the Committee on Publication. These busy, unsalaried men could not well spare a great share of their valuable time in daily mousings through hundreds of pages of dull MS., and if the pastor of the writer had endorsed the book, it was quite apt to go to the printer with a single reader's endorsement. Now those who have had to do with publishing our daily literature know that nine MSS. go into the waste-basket, where one goes to press. The liability hitherto has been that the reader of Sunday school MSS. has mistaken the press box for the waste-basket. The last five years have given us new hope as the rubbish has been cleared away from our shelves to make room for the strong, life-giving food, and they must be poor judges of safe and wholesome books who cannot select a library of from 300 to 500 volumes of the best books the world ever saw, in their fitness for child-mind and child-growth.

The Chautauqua system alone, with its tens of thousands of readers, is one of the most remarkable movements in behalf of a vitalized literature, and the great success which has attended its history is a striking commentary on the hitherto unmethodic and hap-hazard methods of creating a taste for pure and undefiled religious reading.

And what are the books which should be placed first and always in the hands of our children? Let me outline, keeping in view the great purpose of all reading, of the home, the school, the Sunday school, the church, the outfit and the infit for true Christian manhood:

1. The reading should suit the age, characteristics and crises of a child-life.
2. It should be entertaining.
3. It should be pure.
4. It should quicken *mental growth, moral perceptions and religious life.*

Mr. Bicknell here illustrated by charts the classes of books which should be introduced into all of our libraries, and emphasized biography, history, travels, natural science, temperance and pure fiction as the staple elements. It was much to be regretted that the speaker was not able to complete his very valuable paper, which, as we chance to know, contains some of the most practical instructions and directions to parents and teachers in the matter of conducting the important educational work, involved in child reading.

NEWTON SUNDAY-SCHOOL UNION.

Annual Meeting at Channing Church—Essay on Children's Reading by T. W. Bicknell.

A large audience attended the annual meeting of the Newton Sunday-school Union, held at Channing Church last Sunday evening. The exercises opened with an anthem by the choir, followed by Scripture reading by President A. S. Weed, prayer by Rev. Mr. Hornbrooke, and singing by the congregation. The secretary, George C. Dunne, read his report, which showed that twenty-two schools are connected with the union, twenty of which had sent reports for the year, giving the following statistics: Total membership, 3407; average attendance, 2404; contributions, \$2435.98; teachers' meetings, 236; conversions, 92. The following reports for the last quarter were presented from the various Sunday-schools:

	Members.	Average Attendance.	Contributions.
Channing, Newton	160	130	\$150 00
Eliot, "	424	284	211 57
Baptist, "	235	156	55 46
Methodist, "	85	54	27 74
North Evangelical	235	164	23 95
Central Cong'l, Newtonville. 240	160	127	42 87
Methodist, "	140	96	19 24
Universalist, "	81	67	69 96
Cong'l, West Newton	320	227	56 47
Baptist, "	140	110	15 47
Methodist, Auburndale	140	95	20 00
Cong'l, "	292	185	93 41
Methodist, Lower Falls	84	66	16 33
St. Mary's, "	53	35	18 22
Methodist, Upper Falls	144	107	14 87
Baptist, "	94	56	12 13
Cong'l, Newton Highlands ..	160	126	47 66
Baptist, Newton Center	248	180	47 60
Unitarian, "	70	44	11 09
Thompsonville	71	51	7 62
Totals	3417	2203	961 66

*For the year.

A committee comprising the superintendents present retired to prepare a list of officers for the year. While waiting for their report Rev. Mr. Nash was called upon and spoke briefly of the value of the union's work. He thought it especially useful that different views were represented—not for expression, but for the reserve power cultivated in their repression,—and acknowledged that a study of the world's religions had taught him that the same truths were found in every religion—that wherever God's truth had revealed itself it had found some one to receive it. Later in the evening the committee reported the following list of officers, which was adopted: President, Winfield S. Slocum of the Newtonville Congregational church; vice-president, Stephen Moore of the Newton Baptist; secretary and treasurer, George C. Dunne; directors, H. B. Wells of the Channing church and A. T. Sylvester, of the Newtonville Universalist.

MR. BICKNELL'S ESSAY.

The essay of the evening, by Thomas W. Bicknell, editor of the *Journal of Education*, on "What are Our Children Reading?" was a conversational address, full of facts and suggestions, and occupied over an hour. In opening he said: "I am glad that in discussing this subject we meet on the ground of our common agreements rather than our common differences. We are engaged in a grand work—the formation of characters, rather than their reformation. We have a three-fold nature,—physical, mental, moral, all intimately connected and developed by nutriment from without and from the life forces within. How important, therefore, that children's minds receive proper nutriment. Horace Mann once asked the leading educators of the country how many of a given number of bright, healthy children, rightly educated, would grow up to true, Christian manhood and womanhood, and the answer was, more than 90 per cent. The strongest influence on a child is that of a good woman, and next is that of a good book. The secrets of the influence of a book are these: First, the book which one reads in youth is ordinarily along the line of individual choices and tastes; hence, one finds his taste strengthened and promoted by the line of reading which he chooses. Second, what a child reads, however wild, false, or unaccountable it may be, is to him literal truth. Then the book occupies a child's leisure hours. Character is determined more in hours of silence than in hours of action. Lastly, anything that is printed makes a greater impression than a spoken or written word. A book directs and controls the thoughts of its reader; it fixes his ideas for life and determines his companions.

In early life and often in later life there is very little purpose in reading. My object tonight is to show how we can direct a child's reading that it shall have a purpose and an aim. There is a world of books. The last ten or fifteen years, however, have been the most productive of good literature for children. What an advance since the days when the home was the only library, containing perhaps only the almanac, the Bible, the spelling-book and the Psalter—when all the books in New England could be contained in a small parlor, and it was a wonderful thing for a book to have a sale of a thousand copies. Now the Boston public library has an annual circulation of 1,300,000 volumes, each book averaging three readings; the school children take 300,000 of the books, averaging seventeen a year apiece. Some of the trashy, sensational story papers have a circulation of 180,000 and nearly a million readers a week. If those were the worst things printed it would be bad enough, for their stories are simply those which appeal to the passions and the imagination in its worst

form. On the other side the American Tract Society is printing nearly a million books and the Bible Society distributes a million Bibles a year. The Boston public library's yearly circulation consists 74 per cent of fiction, and only 5 per cent of history and biography. The latter is the best side of our literature, and the most valuable, for life is taught through history and biography; we live in the experience of the past, and only rise as we get into the spirit of the ages. Travels and voyages constitute only 4 1-2 per cent of the circulation.

Reading fires the thought and feeling in a child more than in a man. The child clothes every sentence with its clear Anglo-Saxon meaning. The boy reads of thrilling exploits and he becomes the hero of the story, with a brain fired for like endeavors. A child's reading taste should be cultivated in early life and his course of reading should be advised but not absolutely directed. Introduce a book to him as you would a friend, and awaken his interest in it. As Mr. Hale says, "you must make this business agreeable. Whichever avenue we take must be one of the pleasant avenues or else the young people will go skating or fishing and no blame to them." The public schools of Boston are teaching wise lessons in the cultivation of a taste for good reading. A lady teacher in the Weld school has so secured the confidence of her pupils that they give her regularly the list of books which they read, largely following her advice in their selections. Teachers and parents ought always to have the full confidence of the children, that the latter may not read in secret books forbidden to be read openly.

The worst evils entering children's minds are the sensational and sentimental. Our Sunday-school libraries contain many bad books. Three-fourths of the vapid and worthless story-books have a little tissue of real life with a little fabric of a love story and a little moral truth, and this is the sum total of many which should be blown away as chaff before the winnowing fan. Booksellers' shelves groan under their weight. I believe thoroughly in fiction as a part of our literature. When rightly selected it has its proper place in the reading of every child. No boy or girl was ever made the worse by reading Scott or Mrs. Stowe, but thousands have been ruined by the books which line the shelves of our public and Sunday-school libraries. The evils which come from reading bad books are waste of time, weakening of mental fibre, the creation of false and vicious tastes, weakening of the memory, the forming of superficial habits of reading, and the sapping of the moral character. Some say that the Sunday-school library is of doubtful utility.

While literature is so plentiful and cheap, every home should have a library of its own. I would have the home library first and the Sunday-school library as a supplement to it, not as a substitute. It should be a selection, not a mere collection of books, and there is no reason today why it should not be of the very best. Sunday-school books are increasing at the rate of three or four a day. There are six million books in the Sunday-school libraries, their quantity is voluminous and their quality varied enough to suit all tastes. Sunday-school publishers are poor; Sunday-schools are still poorer. Editors know that for every manuscript printed, nine go to the waste basket. With Sunday-school books the case is different for the above reasons, and it often happens that the manuscripts designed for the waste basket, go to the printer. The books on the publishers' shelves must be sold, and Sunday-schools buy too often without proper discrimination. They must be poor judges of good books who cannot select a library of four or five hundred volumes of the best class. The Chatanqua reading system is doing much good in creating a taste for pure and undefiled religious literature. The old style of religious books, which is fast disappearing, usually told of an angelic visitor who had made a mistake and got into a human body, and got out of it as soon as he could after a miserable existence.

In closing the lecturer gave an outline of a plan for making a model Sunday-school library. History and biography he placed first, and prominence was given to religious works, natural history, science and poetry, fiction coming last. The catalogue should give the title, author's name, size of the book and number of pages, with a few words concerning the book's character and contents.

Rev. Mr. Lawrence spoke of other influences which are exercised on children's reading by the public school teachers and the school committee. The method pursued in the Weld school of Boston is followed successfully in several Newton schools.

On motion of Rev. Mr. Nash, the thanks of the union were extended to Mr. Bicknell for the essay, and it was voted that the same subject be the topic for discussion at the next quarterly meeting.

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Newton April 15th 1883.
 The 177th Quarterly meeting
 of the "Newton Sunday School Union" was
 held this evening in the Methodist Church
 Amburudale at 6.30 P.M. President
 W. S. Slocum in the Chair. Prayer
 was offered by the Rev J. W. Rashford
 pastor of the Church.

The records of the last meeting
 were read and approved.

Superintendents reports from the
 following Schools were presented.

Methodist

Whole number

140

Average

94

Contributions

\$12.65

Teacher's meetings

1

Conversions

2

- Congregational

Whole number

292

Average

184

Contributions

\$7.19

Teacher's meetings

10

United with the Church on profession 20

Amburudale

Congregational	West Newton
Whole number	320
Average	208
Contributions	45.01
Teacher's meetings	10
Conversions	25

West A Baptist	W.A.
Whole number	153
Average	103
Contributions	\$30.74
Conversions	8

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	245
Average	156
Contributions	\$27.10
Teacher's meetings	2

Congregational	Newtonville
Whole number	226
Average	145
Contributions	\$34.15

Methodist	Newtonville
Whole number	146
Average	85
Contributions	\$14.00

~~Universalist~~
~~Whole number~~
~~Average~~
~~Contributions~~
~~Teacher's meetings~~

Newtonville

Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

Newton
 250
 173
 \$39.68
 3.

Methodist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Newton
 85
 57
 \$22.65

Epist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teacher's meetings
 United with Ch by conversion

Newton
 388
 256
 \$98.64
 3
 1

Channing
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teacher's meetings

Newton
 170
 130
 10

Methodist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

N. Upper Falls
 142
 104
 \$18.06

Unitarian
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Centre
 70
 31
 \$22.07

Universalist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teacher's meetings

Newtonville
 94
 85
 \$15.69
 13.

Recapitulation
 No. of schools reported
 Whole number of scholars
 Average attendance
 Contributions
 Teacher's meetings
 Conventions or united with
 Church (from the school)

14
 2821
 1814
 \$387.63
 49
 59

The resignation of V^{ice} Pres Stephen Moore was read by the Secretary & on motion it was accepted and Alfred L. Darbour of West Newton was

elected in his place.

Pres. Hlocum introduced
Rev. C. E. Nash of Newtonville
who continued the subject of the
last meeting "What are our Children
Reading?" He was followed
by Prof. J. K. Richardson, Rev.
J. W. Washford & Hon. J. C. Parker.

The meeting was one of great inter-
est. A printed report is hereto
attached. It was announced by the
Pres that the next quarterly meeting
would be held at Newton Highlands
and the subject for discussion

"Mistakes in Sunday School Teaching"

On motion we adjourned
to the third Sunday in July.

Geo. C. Duggins
Secretary

Meeting of the Sunday-School Union.

The quarterly meeting of the Newton Sunday-school Union was held Sunday evening at the Auburndale Methodist church. After the usual reports of the different superintendents, the resignation of Stephen Moccasin vice-president was accepted and Alfred L. Barbour of West Newton was elected in his place. To the question "What are our children reading?" Rev. Mr. Nash of the Newtonville Universalist church gave the very brief answer, "I do not know." He said that 500,000 papers of the lowest character, were printed yearly in New York. It had been estimated that every copy had, on an average, ten readers, which would give the astounding sum of five million people whose minds were thus contaminated. Prof. J. K. Richardson, the next speaker, would confine his remarks to the boys. As a teacher he had often found boys neglecting their studies to read books, most of which were entirely unfit for them. If occasionally he did find a boy with Longfellow's poems, or some book of travels, he opened his eyes very wide. He thought parents must cultivate a taste for good literature and read with their children. One can take the "Life of Cromwell," tell a young child some story from the book, making it simple and interesting and then let him know that it is truth, not fiction, point out the pages where it can be found and the boy will be interested to read it for himself. If a child is guided in his early years and acquires a love for science, literature, history and art, there will be no need of anxiety as to his future reading. Rev. Mr. Bashford followed with interesting remarks. He spoke in high praise of his stepfather and the influence he exerted over his boys by leading them to feel an interest and responsibility in the great questions of the day. He depreciated the prevalent idea that reading is chiefly for pleasure. If you wish to drive the darkness out of a room, it is of no use to bat about with a broom, but light the gas and it flees away of itself. The surest way to drive out poor books is to teach children to be interested in good ones.

Newton July 15th 1898.

The 198 Quarterly meeting of the "Newton Sunday School Union" was held this evening in the Congregational Church - Newton Highlands at 6.30 O'clock. Rev M. J. Hoern in the Chair. After scriptures reading, prayer was offered by Bro S. M. Sanford of Newton.

The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following Superintendents reports were presented

Eliot	Newton
Whole number	422
Average	283
Contributions	\$133.30
Teacher's meetings	1
United with Chr from the school	1

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	240
Average	170
Contributions	\$32.51

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	80
Average	55
Contributions	\$11.53

Chapman	Neuton
Whole number	170
Average	120
Teacher's meetings	7

North Evangelical	Neuton
Whole number	261
Average	178
Contributions	\$16.47
Teacher's meetings	2
Congregational	Neutonville
Whole number	240
Average	146
Conversions <small>counted with Phelps the S. S. School</small>	2
Contributions	\$33.25

Congregational	West Neuton
Whole number	306
Average	198
Contributions	\$61.63
Teacher's meetings	10

Baptist	West Neuton
Whole number	159
Average	124
Contributions	\$217.55
Conversions	10

Congregational	Cumberland
Whole number	292
Average	186
Contributions	\$123.06
Teacher's meetings	12
United with Ch for the S.S. School	10

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	142
Average	111
Contributions	\$13.26
Conversions	15

Congregational	North Highland
Whole number	163
Average	111
Contributions	\$24.81
Conversions	1

Unitarian	North Centre
Whole number	65
Average	40
Contributions	\$10.32

Methodist	Lower Falls
Whole number	70
Average	50
Contributions	\$12.07

Universalist	Newtonville
Whole number	93
Average	21
Contributions	\$23.17
Teacher's meetings	13

Recapitulation	
No. of Schools reported	14
Whole number of Scholars	2703
Average attendance	1853
Contributions	\$715.93
Teacher's meeting	45
Conversions or united with the Church from the School	39

It was announced by the President that the October meeting would be at Newtonville. The subject for discussion "Mistakes in Sunday School Teaching" was opened by Rev. F. W. Gursanus of Newtonville and he was followed by E. O. Bullock of Wellesley Hills, W. S. Strong, A. J. Sherman, L. B. Gay, L. B. Leland & George Dutton. A printed report is filed with the records.

On motion we adjourned to October.
 Geo. C. Dunne
 Secretary

"MISTAKES IN SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHING."

Meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union.

A largely attended meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union occurred at the Newton Highlands Congregational Church last Sabbath evening. Mr. W. S. Slocum of Newtonville, the President of the Union, occupied the chair and prayer was offered by Mr. S. M. Sayford, the Secretary of the Massachusetts Y. M. C. Association.

The President announced that the next meeting would be at Newtonville, and the subject to be discussed, "Mistakes in Sunday School Management."

The leading essayist of the evening, the Rev. Frank W. Gunsaulus of the Central Congregational Church, Newtonville, was then introduced, and spoke at length and with considerable earnestness, upon the topic of the evening, "Mistakes in Sunday School Teaching." He opened with the declaration that it would be far easier to talk of the success rather than the mistakes of teaching. Again, he did not believe it right to refer at length to what seemed mistakes unless he could suggest some remedy. We live, he said, in an age of great Sabbath school success. We are organized with perfect machinery, and it may often be found that too much of this nicely adjusted machinery works evil. Against this we must guard ourselves. The lesson helps and question books and papers are excellent, no doubt, in their way, but it is a grave mistake to allow them to do all the work of preparation. The teacher should make himself and his pupils thoroughly acquainted with the lesson outside of these given points in order to do his work properly. He should prepare himself properly and fully before coming before his class, and the successful teacher will teach his class with ideas from his own careful study, while the lesson helps for his guide only.

If Newton, Milton, Sydney and Cromwell had all been in one school and taught together, the world would never have been the recipients of such varied and vast wisdom and elevated ideas. It was because they were different—their minds ran through various channels, and their ideas were original and therefore ripened in different directions. So with the pupil, if he is only taught what the lesson help furnishes, each member of the class will have only what is common to his classmate and no new ideas will result. The teacher not only gives his pupils the benefit of broad study and research, and endeavors to so teach his class as to bring out every member and his individual ideas concerning the topic under discussion. In this manner each member will become interested in the new ideas of his classmates, the teacher will also find new material to use, and the entire class be benefited and the topic made vastly more interesting.

Consequently in our work as teachers we must keep this individuality of the teacher and pupil ever in view in order to succeed.

The power of Christ was in his many-sided nature, which he used to great advantage. Personality is a great element in successful teaching, and it cannot safely be overlooked.

Mr. E. O. Bullock of Wellesley Hills was next speaker, and paid particular attention to the difficulties teachers must experience who are teased into teaching a class—as is too often the case. He believed there were too many such teachers. A successful teacher must be one who enters his class with a deep interest in his work and a previous careful preparation of the subject. He fully believed that when the lesson helps were made the teacher's failure is inevitable. He also urged personality and individual teaching.

Mr. W. C. Strong maintained that as a rule, books and lesson papers ought not to be taken into the class, but that the Bible should be the only book.

Mr. L. E. Leland said considerable complaint is often made that the scholar came unprepared, and believed it to be an excellent idea for the teacher to point out to his pupils, the Sunday before, the leading or seed thoughts for the next lesson, in order that he might become interested in it and find food for thought and direction in the study of his lesson.

Remarks were also made by A. G. Sherman, of Newton Centre, L. B. Gay, of Newton and Horace Dutton, of Auburndale.

Newton Sunday School Union.

The quarterly meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union was held at the Newton Highlands Congregational church on Sunday evening.

Prayer was offered by S. M. Sayford, and it was announced that the next meeting would be held at Newtonville, the subject to be "Mistakes in Sunday School Management."

Rev. F. W. Gunsaulus was the essayist of the evening, his subject being "Mistakes in Sunday School Teaching." It would be easier to treat the successes than the mistakes of Sunday school teaching, for there were none of those but might be easily remedied. The average of success is very gratifying, but there are points in which there is liability to weaknesses. It is the very perfection of the machinery of its organization which constitutes this weakness. Helps and questions are undoubtedly of service, but these should be thoroughly mastered in our own minds before we undertake the instruction of our classes. There is a tendency to too much dependence on the question book and too little preparation by the teacher. Instead of copying the rules of some other teacher, leadership, in the future, must come from our own inwardness. The teacher must accommodate himself to the field and study the character which he is to shape and develop. If Newton, Milton, Sidney and Cromwell had been taught in the same school under a systematized code of imparting the lessons, I do not think they could have reached that development which the world has seen in these great lives. A difference in teaching must produce different results, a difference in innate results and in the development of character. The outlook in Christian scholarship is the development of similar traits—the planting of the seeds of character which are the possession of the teacher in the recipient mind of the scholar.

well impressed upon four boys is far more prolific in results than the same degree of individual influence distributed among forty boys. The temperament of the pupil should be studied, and if the poetic or mechanical temperament are indicated, whichever it may be, bring it out. The power of Christ was in the many sides of his character and his assimilation of the agency to the requirement. Garfield said, "If you put Mark Hopkins on one end of a bench, and a student at the other, you have a university"—the personality of the man would make itself felt in the personality of the youth. It is a safe rule of inference that if a Sunday school teacher is satisfied with any list of questions, he has lost his personality and fails to impress it upon the personality of his class. In the day school, certain practical truths are taught—once a week they should be taught a different truth. The aim should be to enlighten our bible; Christ died for all, and the teacher should emphasize this. Bible teachers should not teach until satisfied that it is safe to teach that truth. Our personal effort should be directed to the child's comprehension and we should endeavor to get back to the place where the child is to learn from. Christ said "Suffer little children to come unto me," and the invitation conveyed appreciation—I doubt if we are getting all we should out of the companionship of children. The child's confidence in its father or friend is wonderful in its trustfulness, and I believe we could learn much of faith and trust from these little ones.

E. O. Bullock, of Wellesley Hills, reached his consideration of the subject through his personal experience and the difficulties he had met. He thought criticism came mostly from the "doo-littles." Forced teachers cannot do good work, those who attempt it are unwilling workers who fill their laps with "helps" and are glad when their labor is over. If every teacher would but say, "Father! Help us to open this book," there would be little doubt of their efforts being well directed. In a class of boys, a teacher met poor success until a question in geography came up in which one of the boys was interested; this led to active interest in the whole subject and much good was accomplished. The trouble with many teachers is that they bottle themselves up and the boys too. The danger lies not in the helps but in using them as stuffing materials. The teacher, in reviewing the lesson, should ask: "What lesson is there here for me?"

Wm. C. Strong did not favor question books, but thought teachers should go to the Bible for both text and direction.

Messrs. A. G. Sherman, L. B. Gay and L. E. Leland continued the discussion. Mr. Leland thought the important thing to consider was that the scholars were unprepared to profit by the lesson; therefore the aim of the teacher should be to supply this needed preparation. Suppose teachers in the day schools should simply lay the text books before the child and say: "Learn this!" Success could not be expected under such a method.

Horace Dutton spoke briefly upon the subject, and the very successful meeting was brought to a close.

Newton Oct 21st 1883.

The 179 Quarterly meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union was held this evening in the Universalist Church Newtonville at 6.30 O'clock.

Pres W. S. Slocum in the Chair.

After reading Scripture selections Prayer was offered by Rev C. E. Nash pastor of the Church.

The following Superintendents reports were presented.

Eliot School	Newton
Whole number	405
Average	245
Contributions	\$145.18

Channing	Newton
Whole number	170
Average	125
Teacher's Meetings	3

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	250
Average	128
Contributions	\$24.94

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	85
Average	45
Contributions	\$7.15

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	212
Average	156
Contributions	\$18.63
Teacher's meetings	2

Bond	Newtonville
Whole number	246
Average	119
Contributions	\$25.12

Universalist	Newtonville
Whole number	93
Average	67
Contributions	\$10.00
Teacher's meetings	4

Methodist	Newtonville
Whole number	130
Average	60
Contribution	\$15.00

X Congregational W Newton
 Whole number 306
 Average 174
 Contributions \$53.96
 Teacher's meetings 7

Congl. Urbandale
 Whole number 290
 Average 125
 Contributions (not including Blue Boxes) \$4.88
 Teacher's meetings 12
 Conversions united with the Church 11

St. Mary's Lower Falls
 Whole number 67
 Average 55

Methodist Lower Falls
 Whole number 75
 Average 36
 Contributions \$9.71

Baptist Upper Falls
 Whole number 95
 Average 46
 Contributions \$11.12
 Conversions 3

Aethiopian	Upper Falls
Whole number	140
Average	102
Contributions	\$13.91
Conversions	6

Congl	Highland
Whole number	160
Average	118
Contributions	\$22.50

Unitarian	Centre
Whole number	54
Average	35
Contributions	1.75

Baptist	West
Whole number	10
Average	0
Contributions	\$0.00
Conversions	4

Recapitulation	
No. of schools reported	17
Whole number	2918
Average attendance	1743
Contributions	\$432.45
Teacher's meetings	28
Conversions or united with the Church from the school	22

his intention to move

Mr. H. B. Wells gave notice of a change of Article VI of the Constitution so as to have meetings monthly instead of quarterly.

The subject for the Evening "Mistakes in Sunday School Management" was ably opened by Mr. John O. Kimball Supt of Schools Newton. He was followed by Stephen Moore, Rev. A. B. Spaulding, Hon. J. F. C. Hyde, Horace Dutton, Hon. John C. Park & President W. S. Slocum. A printed report is filed with the records.

Excellent music was furnished by the Church Choir.

adjourned to this Sunday in January

Geo. A. Dunne
Secretary

NEWTON SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

A Meeting of Importance and Interest --- Mistakes in Sunday School Management Discussed.

The quarterly meeting of the Newton Sunday Union was held in the Universalist Church, Newtonville, last Sunday evening, President W. S. Slocum in the chair. The exercises were opened with prayer by the Rev. C. E. Nash. The officers recommended Newton Centre for the January meeting and the subject "What can we do to advance the interests of the Union," will be discussed. It is proposed to change Art. VI. so that the meetings may be held monthly instead of quarterly, notice of which was given to be acted upon at the next meeting.

The subject of the evening, "Mistakes in Sunday School Management," was ably discussed by Mr. John E. Kimball, Superintendent of the schools of Newton. Mistakes in Sunday school management are mistakes in doing and not doing, positive and negative errors. The condition of a successful Sunday school teacher is to gather pupils in and keeping them when you get them. Offering wrong motives, offering prizes to induce children to come ought to be condemned. I am afraid if a Bible was offered for committing passages to memory, that the good effects would be hidden in the gilt binding. The day school has a strong claim in the furtherances of the Sunday school. I have sat down with parents to talk about the waywardness of their boy or daughter and have gone over the points and could not detect the cause. But I have almost always found that the parents had promised a gold watch or some prize if they would be good and do so and so.

Closely allied to this on the other side, is the failure to apply proper restraints. I know I am treading on dangerous ground, that parents cannot believe their children would or could do wrong. Children are opposed to any restraint. What are the facts. After a long experience with all kind of Sunday schools and scholars, I have seen bad conduct children allowed to run pell mell over the school after their lessons were over. If these things are so what is the remedy? I care not whether it is talking at prayer time, trading jack knives, talking of society calls, new dresses or hats. It is an abomination.

There ought to be a standard, then get a clear idea of what we want in the Sunday school and then we must decide to set up that standard and the work will be done. How shall it be corrected—a look from a teacher will be enough.—some cases will require a rebuke, and there may be cases which will defy the standard and it will be better for such to be out of the Sunday school than inside. Either the reverence and standard will be obeyed or the downward course will follow.

Mr. Stephen Moore of Newton, said one mistake is too much management. The children in our Sunday school are not dummies, they are living, responsible beings and it is our duty to lead them upwards. I believe in system. What shall we do with a bad boy? It would not do to talk to him from the desk. I would get a teacher to love him, a loving teacher can conquer a bad boy.

Teachers are not all alike and some teachers are best adapted to certain kind of classes, so we should see that our teachers have the right class. I believe in personal work which must be done outside of the school and desk. A teacher's quality and worth must not be judged by his Bible knowledge, which is all right, but not all. Unless a teacher can learn to love his scholars, he ought not to teach that class. Every superintendent ought to have grace, gold and grit. He can pray for the first, the next you ought to get for him, for it costs money to run a Sunday school, and the last he needs, for there may be times when others may differ from him and if he knows he is right he needs the grit to go ahead. It is a mistake to underrate the work we are doing, for more than 700,000 teachers and over 5,000,000 scholars are in Sunday schools today in this country.

Rev. H. G. Spaulding of Newton, said the public and Sunday schools are trying to educate our boys and they crowd them by trying to do too much and live a little. We must live and practice as well as teach. We need a sanctified tact to manage properly. The Sunday school is not the children's church; there is but one church; it is where their parents go. We may make the exercises very impressive.

Hon. J. F. C. Hyde said we will all admit that the mistakes of our life have been many. It makes a great deal of difference whether your school is a large one like the Eliot or a small one like the Highland school. The large school can easily get all the teachers they want while we have to take what we have and do the best we can.

Horace Dutton thought the Sunday school was more like the church in our Lord's time than the present church. It was not a set sermon, but the people gathered together to read and study the scriptures.

Hon. John C. Park said a great deal that has been said is excellent to carry to our teachers, meetings. The parents ought to have more intercourse with the teachers so they can work together.

President W. S. Slocum said the Sunday school was today where the day school used to be. The day school demand trained teachers. The Sunday school needs such teachers. How can we get them? Can we not impress upon our young people a conviction so they will say, I will prepare myself for a trained Sunday school teacher. The choir of the church rendered some excellent music, and the meeting was one of the best we have attended and will no doubt do a great deal of good.

Newton Jan'y 20th 1887.
 The 45 Annual Meeting
 of the Newton Sunday School Union
 was held this evening in the Methodist
 Church at 6.30

Rev. Mr. Moore in the Chair.
 After reading our prayer book
 prayer was offered by Rev. Mr. [unclear]
 the of Newton [unclear]

The Annual reports of the Secretary
 and Treasurers were presented and
 accepted.

The Treas report
 showed that there was cash on hand
 \$100.00. On motion it was voted
 to dispense with reading of the
 records of the last meeting.

The subject for the evening
 discussion "How can we increase
 the usefulness of the Newton Sunday
 School Union" was offered by
 the Rev. Mr. [unclear] of Newton
 and was followed by Rev. Dr. B. H.
 Clark, and J. L. [unclear] and
 John A. [unclear]. A printed report
 is here to be named.

The resolution to Ayl VI of
 the constitution proposed at the
 last meeting was lost, after which
 by J. B. [unclear] [unclear] [unclear]
 the Secretary

Superintendent's report
 reported the following list of
 Officers for the ensuing year

For President
 Alfred L. Harbour, Ba, Ont
 West View town

Vice President
 A. T. Swisher, Hamilton
 New Townville

Secretary & Treasurer
 George Dunne, London
 Newton

Directors

Amey L. Rand, Michodigt, Ne. Ont.
 Wm. H. Strong, London, " Highgate

On motion the report was adopted

The following financial reports
 were read

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	250
Chorages	\$8.00
Contributions	\$37.55

Epist.	Newton
Whole number	217
Chorages	\$8.00
Contributions	\$10.00

Union	Newton
Whole number	182
Average	131
Contributions	\$120.00
Teachers meetings	6

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	75
Average	59
Contributions	\$25.20

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	231
Average	160
Contributions	\$200.00
Teachers meetings	3

Union	Newton
Whole number	97
Average	79
Contributions	\$34.31
Teachers meetings	3

Union	Newton
Whole number	234
Average	183
Contributions	\$36.94
Teachers meetings	7

Methodist

Whole number
Average
Contributions
Conversions

11
11
\$10.00
2

Baptist

Whole number
Average
Contributions
Conversions

14
14
\$13.50
2

Congl

Whole number
Average
Contributions
Teacher's meetings

10
30
21
\$75.13
10

Congl

Whole number
Average
Contributions
Teacher's meetings
Conversions

10
20
11
\$2.00
12
1

Methodist

Whole number
Average
Contributions
Conversions

140
113
17.00
5

Congl

Whole number

Average

Contributions

S. Centre

160

130

\$74.98

Unitarian

Whole number

Average

Contributions

S. Centre

68

43

\$17.79

Recapitulation

No of Schools reported

14

Whole number

2711

Average attendance

1947

Contributions

\$894.93

Teachers' meetings

34

Conversions or united with

the Church from the school

12

Adjourned to the third Sunday

April

Geo. A. Duncanson
Secretary

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Forty-fifth Annual Meeting—Address by Rev. Wolcott Calkins.

The forty-fifth annual meeting of the Newton Sunday School union was held in the Newton Center Methodist church last Sunday evening, President W. S. Slocum in the chair. After the devotional exercises,—Rev. Dr. Huntington, dean of Boston university, leading in prayer,—the secretary, George C. Dunne, read his annual report. The expenses for the year were \$18.31, and there is a balance on hand of \$44.78. Blanks are sent to 22 schools, which report with more or less regularity. The total membership reported for the last quarter by 14 schools is 2711; average attendance, 1947; contributions for the year, \$2433.94; teachers' meeting during the year, 156; conversions or additions to the church from the Sunday school, 132, an increase of 40. The following is the number of quarterly reports received from each school in the last five years, and is interesting as showing the interest taken by the different schools in the union: Eliot, Newton Baptist, North Evangelical, Universalist, West Newton Congregational, 20 each, these schools having reported every time; Upper Falls Methodist, 19; Upper Falls Baptist, and Channing, 18; Newton Methodist, Auburndale Congregational and Newton Center Unitarian, 17; Newtonville Methodist, 16; Newtonville Congregational, 15; West Newton Baptist and Newton Highlands Congregational, 14; Lower Falls Episcopal, and Thompsonville, 13; Newton Center Baptist and Lower Falls Methodist, 12; Auburndale Methodist, 7; Newton Center Congregational, 6; Newton Center Methodist, 5. The Newton Center Baptist, Congregational and Methodist and Thompsonville schools have not reported during the year.

Rev. Wolcott Calkins's address on the topic, "How shall we increase the usefulness of the Newton Sunday School union?" was given before further business was done, as he was obliged to return to his own church. He said that he had been greatly impressed with the unique history of the union, knowing of no society precisely like it. That it should have existed forty-five years in these days of change is remarkable. It grew out of times when union for religious work was less common than now. He spoke of its first president, William Jackson, a man honored by the community. There were 130 of its members in the army, 19 of whom laid down their lives, and no doubt their Christian training helped to nerve them to their duty. Referring to the lost City of Columbus, and the story that the pilot left the wheel to warm himself, he said that there are times when it is a man's duty to freeze to death. The business of churches and Sunday schools is to nerve men to this thought: To work for the right, counting life as nothing in a question of

principle. The catholic spirit of the union commands admiration. It does not assume to dictate to any Sunday school what it shall teach. It simply wants the workers to come together and give an account of what they are doing, letting each one go on with the work which seems to him fittest. He urged the importance of regular reports from the schools. It is worth a great deal to have the officers taken from so many different churches, and that they have worked together harmoniously for forty-five years. What can be done to increase the usefulness of the union? Much by personal influence with the societies that are growing cold—and he volunteered to do his part. It was the rule in the army that no man should warm himself by the camp-fire, unless he brought a stick to throw on. If Eliot church is not doing its share, we want you to stir us up. He thought the grove meetings held in the early days of the union might be revived, and spoke of one famous meeting held at Upper Falls about 1840, with 3000 or 4000 present. But the great thing is the deepening of our earnest purpose. We are training the souls of these children, and the thing which will increase the interest in this union is that which will kindle the life of God in the heart of every child. The questions of ways and means will take care of themselves when our hearts are kindled with the thought that our work is to bring home God's lost children.

Rev. Dr. Peirce was called upon, and said he had not been able to do much for the union, and felt like a man of whom Dr. Jewett used to tell. Because of an accident, four men were obliged to work their passage to Boston on a hand-car, and the fourth man sat on behind, never offering to help, but kept shouting, "We are going along finely, boys!" He spoke of a grove meeting once held on one of the hills now forming the Newton cemetery. Nothing, he said, impresses me so much at these gatherings as the masses of childhood, and it is on them that we must leave our impress. The paintings of the old masters in foreign galleries are admired today by countless visitors. So we are making pictures on the minds of the young—let us hope the photograph of God, and our work will be observed by future generations, and the Great Master forever.

W. S. Slocum spoke of the possibility of increasing the usefulness of the union by the delegates making a report when they get back of what they gather at the meetings. Judge Park emphasized the idea that children should be led to talk over at home what they learn at Sunday school, so as to lead to religious conversation in the family.

The following officers were elected: President, A. L. Barbour; vice-president, A. T. Sylvester; secretary and treasurer, George C. Dunne; directors, Avery L. Rand, William C. Strong. A motion to amend the constitution so that meetings should be held monthly instead of quarterly was rejected. The reports from the schools were read, and the meeting closed at 8.30, with the benediction by Dr. Peirce. The attendance was good, though the weather was unfavorable.

Newton April 20th 1884.

The 181 Quarterly meeting of the Union was held this evening in the Baptist Church West Newton. President Parbourn in the chair. Scripture reading by Vic Pres Sylvester and prayer by Rev C. L. Kimball pastor of the church.

Records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following Superintendents reports were presented.

Baptist	West Newton
Whole number	170
Average	147
Contributions	\$39.41
Teachers' meetings	3
Conversions	7
Congregational	W. Newton
Whole number	312
Average	207
Contributions	\$51.49
Teachers' meetings	10
Congl	Auburndale
Whole number	246
Average	190
Contributions	12
Teachers' meetings	13
Admitted to church for the school	5

Methodist	Lower Falls
Whole number	73
Average	49
Contributions	\$16.51

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	140
Average	96
Contributions	\$10.36

Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	79
Average	49
Contributions	\$3.98

Congl	North Highland
Whole number	172
Average	121
Contributions	\$41.94
Conversions	11

Unitarian	Centre
Whole number	40
Average	40
Contributions	\$4.92

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	85
Average	51
Contributions	\$11.99

Eliot	Newton
Whole number	418
Average	277
Contributions	\$85.50
Teachers' meetings	1
United with the Ch for the school	6

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	280
Average	204
Contributions	\$22.40
Teachers' meetings	3
Conversions	50

Channing	Newton
Whole number	184
Average	135
Contributions	\$39.73
Teachers' meetings	6

Universalist	Newtonville
Whole number	95
Average	78
Contributions	\$55.07
Teachers' meetings	3
Conversions	2

Cong	Kentouville
Whole number	257
Average	161
Contributions	\$41.67
United with the Ch. for the S.S.	3

North Evangelical	Nonantum
Whole number	208
Average	176
Contributions	20.51
Teacher's meetings	2
Conversions	8

Recapitulation

Number of Schools reported	15
Whole number	2816
Average	1981
Contributions	\$445.48
Teacher's meetings	41
Conversions or united with the Church from the S.S.	82

It was announced by the President that the next meeting would be at the Methodist Church Upper Falls. The subject: "The Aim, Scope and Responsibilities of the Sunday School Work" was then ably presented by Prof W. F. Sherwin, now of Boston.

At the close of his address a large number of written questions were presented and answered.

Adjourned at 8.30 to the third Sunday in July. Geo. C. Dunne
Secretary

Address by Prof. Sherwin on Sunday-School Work.

The 181st. quarterly meeting of the Sunday-school union was held on Sunday evening at the West Newton Baptist Church. President Barbour occupied the chair. After scripture reading by Vice-president A. T. Sylvester and prayer by Rev. O. D. Kimball, the reports of the superintendents of the different schools were presented.

Prof. W. S. Sherwin of Boston addressed the union on "The aim, scope and responsibilities of Sunday-school work." Of the first topic, the aim, he considered first the negative side. The Sunday-school is not a substitute for home religious training. Thousands of people expect the school to take the place of home. Let us see what the scripture says—"And these words * * * shall be in thine heart and thou shalt teach them diligently unto thy children and shalt talk of them when thou sitest in thine house and when thou liest down and when thou risest up," etc. (Deut. vi: 6-9.) Can the finest Sunday-school in the land make up for the home? What is half an hour in the school compared to the whole week at home? "And ye fathers, provoke not your children to wrath, but bring them up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord." (Eph. vi: 4.) You fathers have something to do. I know something of the homes of the land, and most of the work is left to the tired mothers to do. A true mother never goes to bed with all her work done. We men turn over the religious culture of our children to mother, that our time may be free to read the morning paper, talk politics, etc. The Sunday-school is not a substitute for the preaching service. The children are not all in the church but they should be there. I was brought up to go, but some say it is too wearisome for them. There is no truth in the statement. Leave the children at home, and you go to church or hide, and see what they can stand. The preaching service stands first, and if it is possible that a child can't go to both I would say give up the Sunday-school. The Sunday-school is not a substitute for the other religious meetings of the church, you can't find what you can get at a religious meeting any where else. You may say it is too late to have them out at night, but it is not too late for them to attend a party or concert. The aim of the Sunday-school is to bring souls to Christ. It is your duty to sow the seed, and God will do the rest. When we have led them to Christ and their names go on the church record, we are apt to think our work is done, when it is just begun.

Of the scope of Sunday-school work the speaker said the Sunday-school is a department and whoever needs to be trained should be in the Sunday-school he would not exempt anybody. As to the responsibilities, every church should make an appropriation for the Sunday-school, just as for the pastor's or sexton's salary. It is not right to spend the penny collections for the school expenses. The pastor is the head, but the superintendent has charge, and the two should work together.

A large number of written questions were answered by Prof. Sherwin. The church quartet and Sunday-school choir furnished excellent music.

NEWTON SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Aim, Scope and Responsibilities of Sunday School Work.

THE ADDRESS OF PROF. SHERWIN.

The 181st quarterly meeting of the Union was held last Sunday evening in the Baptist Church, West Newton, and President Barbour occupied the chair. Scripture reading by Vice President Sylvester was followed with prayer by the Rev. O. D. Kimball, pastor of the church. Superintendent's reports of the different schools were then presented. Prof. W. F. Sherwin of Boston, then addressed the Union on "The Aim, Scope and Responsibilities of the Sunday School Work."

1st, Aim. Wherein do people differ as to the aim? Let us look at the negative side—what the Sunday school is not for. It is sometimes necessary to tell people *not* to do instead of what to do. 1st. The Sunday school is not a substitute for home religious training. Thousands of people expect the school to take the place of home. Let us see what the Scriptures say, quoting Deut. 6: 6, 9. Can the finest Sunday school in the land make up for the home? Quoting Deut. 4: 9 and Prov. 22: 6. What is half an hour in the Sunday school compared with the whole week at home? quoting Eph. 6: 4.

Your fathers have something to do, I know something of the homes of the Lord and most of this work is left to the tired mother to do. A true mother never goes to bed with all her work done. We men turn over the religious culture of our children to mother that our time may be free to read the morning paper, talk politics, etc.

2nd. The Sunday school is not a substitute for the preaching services. The children are not all in the church, but they should be there. I was brought up to go, but some say it is too wearisome for them. There is no truth in the statement. Leave the children at home and you go to church or hide and see what they can stand. The preaching services stands first and if it is possible that a child can not go to both I would say give up the Sunday school.

3d. The Sunday school is not a substitute for the other religious meetings of the church. You can't find what you can get at the religious meetings anywhere else. You may say it is too late to have them out at night, but it is not too late for them to attend a party or concert.

The 1st aim is to bring souls to Christ. It is your duty to sow the seed and God will do the rest. When we have led them to Christ and their names go on the church record we are apt to think our work is done, when it is just commenced.

The Scope. The Sunday school is a department and who ever need to be trained should be in the Sunday school. I would not exempt anybody.

Responsibilities. Every church should make an appropriation for the Sunday school just as much as for the pastor's salary or sexton. It is not right to spend the penny collections for the school expenses. The pastor is the head, but the superintendent has charge and the two should work together. A large number of written questions were asked at the close of the address which were answered by Prof. Sherwin. The church quartette and Sunday school choir furnished excellent music.

Newton July 20th 1881

The 182 quarterly meeting of the Union was held this evening in the Methodist Church, Newton Upper Falls at 6.30

President A. L. Barbour in the chair. Vic Ben Sylvester read marks

1811-15. Prayer was offered by

Brother L. E. Leland.

Records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following Superintendents reports were presented.

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	140
Average	100
Contributions	\$4.95

Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	81
Average	56
Contributions	\$8.04

Congl	Newton Highlands
Whole number	183
Average	124
Contributions	\$31.15
Teacher's meetings	2

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	280
Average	206
Contributions	\$50.03

Eliot	Newton
Whole number	413
Average	277
Contributions	\$115.10
Teachers' meetings	2
United with the Church for the S.	16

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	98
Average	60
Contributions	\$15.27
Conversions	4

Channing	Newton
Whole number	200
Average	125
Contributions	\$46.66
Teachers' meetings	6

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	198
Average	148
Contributions	\$28.67
Teachers' meetings	3

Universalist	Newtonville
Whole number	105
Average	95
Contributions	\$43.73
Teacher's meetings	13

Baptist	W. Newton
Whole number	165
Average	139
Contributions	\$37.55

Congl	W. Newton
Whole number	321
Average	194
Contributions	\$54.23
Teacher's meetings	10

Congl	Clairburndale
Whole number	250
Average	181
Teacher's meetings	13

Unitarian	Newton Centre
Whole number	70
Average	35
Contributions	417

Recapitulation	
No of Schools reported	13
Whole number	2504
Average attendance	1742
Contributions	\$442.55
Teachers meeting	49
Conversions or united with the Ch	20

A letter was read from the Myrtle Baptist Sunday School desiring to be admitted to membership in the Union. On motion it was admitted.

The subject for the evening "Is it expedient to close the Sunday School during the Summer Vacation Season" was ably presented by Stephen Moore of Newton. He was followed by Geo. L. Howbridge, L. E. Leland, C. H. Washburn & Pres Barbour.

A printed report is hereto annexed. Pres Barbour announced that the next meeting would be at Konarturn in October. adjourned.

Geo. C. Dunne
Secretary

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Discussion of the Vacation Question.

The Newton Sunday-school Union held their 182d quarterly meeting on Sunday evening at the Methodist church, Upper Falls. A fair number were present, and the pulpit was tastefully decorated with flowers. President Barbour occupied the chair, Vice-President Sylvester read from the Scriptures, and L. E. Leland offered prayer. The Myrtle Baptist Sunday-school of West Newton was admitted to membership. Reports for the quarter were received from 10 Sunday-schools.

Stephen Moore, superintendent of the Newton Baptist Sunday-school, opened the discussion of the question, "Is it expedient to close the Sunday-school during the summer months?" which he answered emphatically no. He would have neither a real nor a nominal vacation—meaning by the last expression, the giving up of the regular services, but an informal meeting of those who care to come. Three principal reasons are given for closing the schools. First, the superintendents and teachers need rest. But they can rest and let others take their places for a time. Secondly, it is claimed that the scholars come back after a vacation with fresh zeal and renewed vigor. That is no doubt true of the day school; it is true of the man of business. But in the Sunday-school it takes the average school about a month to get where he was before the vacation. Thirdly, they say there are so many away that the school must drag if it keeps at all. But the number actually away is smaller than is usually imagined. I don't believe there is a sound argument for closing the schools, while there are plenty of reasons for keeping them open. Satan never takes a vacation. If the powers of evil did take a vacation of two months, how the Christian people would arouse themselves to do great things for God! The effect of those two months would be felt through eternity. A pastor in New York to whom a vacation for his church was suggested, replied, "Never will I consent to a vacation till I find that people are less likely to sin in summer than at other times." If all schools are kept open, those who go away and strangers who come to our city will always find a school to attend. A good man from the country, coming to Boston and finding the churches closed, thought the Bible ought to be amended to read, "Be not weary in well-doing—except in July and August"—"I was glad when they said unto me—except in July and August—Let us go into the house of the Lord." It seems to me there is but one side to the question.

George S. Trowbridge said the Eliot school had never had a vacation in 38 years, and he believed vacations lowered the standard of Sunday-school work. He thought some special exercises could be arranged for the summer, in which all could take part, without requiring the children to learn lessons.

Luther C. Leland felt that Christian parents delegated the religious teaching of their children too much to the Sunday-schools. Perhaps if we had four weeks' vacation and the parents distinctly understood that the children were placed back in their hands for religious training, the effect might be good on both parents and children. He would not have any cessation of religious instruction, however.

C. H. Washburn, superintendent of the Pine Farm school, did not believe in a vacation, and related his experience with the boys at the Home in enforcing Sabbath observance. Speaking of the newsboys' lodging houses in New York he said that the manager of one stated that the greatest benefit to the boys there was in the hour they gathered on the Sabbath.

Mr. Moore said he would agree with Mr. Trowbridge as to having a change of exercises, but he would have it announced that the exercises were to be of special interest and urge every one to come. The interest must be maintained to keep those who are hanging near the edge.

In closing the meeting, Mr. Barbour urged the importance of reviving interest in the Union, and of getting it out of ruts if it had got into them.

The next meeting will be at Nonantum, in October.

The Newton Sunday School Union.

THE SUBJECT OF VACATION DISCUSSED.

The quarterly meeting of the Union was held last Sunday evening at 6.30 in the Methodist Church, Upper Falls, and there was a good attendance. President A. L. Barbour occupied the chair. Prayer was offered by L. E. Leland. A letter was received from the Myrtle Baptist Church, West Newton, asking to be admitted to the Union, and on motion it was admitted.

President Barbour made a few remarks about the work of the Union in the past, and referred to the great interest the late M. S. Rice had for the Union.

VACATIONS.

Mr. Stephen Moore, Superintendent of the Newton Baptist school, then made an interesting address on vacations, of which the following is an abstract:

There are two kinds of vacations, real and nominal. By nominal is meant that in which the regular sessions of the school are discontinued and no records kept, but those who love Sunday school work meet in an informal way to study the lesson.

Real vacations are detrimental to the highest interests of the school; nominal ones the same, except in degree; because they give an opportunity, almost an invitation, to all who are not bound by strong ties of love for the work to be absent.

No argument is needed to prove that a work of such acknowledged good as the Sunday School should not be abated without potent reasons. If the Sunday School is good for ten months of the year it is better for twelve.

Three reasons are frequently urged in favor of vacations. First, needed rest for Sunday School workers. Grant that rest is needed for the individual, it does not follow that the school sessions should be intermitted. When a President dies the machinery of government does not stop. Let the Superintendent, let the teachers each take his needed rest, but let the school go on. Each should furnish a substitute and the change may be a blessing to all. We do not, it is hoped, seek a vacation from prayer, from the reading and study of God's word, from watchfulness for souls or from helping the young in the development of Christian character, yet these are all a part of our Sunday School work and are no where carried on more effectually than in connection with the Sunday School.

The second reason urged for vacations is the assertion that schools return to the work with fresh zeal after the rest of the summer months. While this is doubtless true of the secular school and of the business of this world, it is more than doubtful if it obtains in spiritual matters, for there gravitation is a law as universal as in the natural world, and without the magnetism of constant communion and the uplifting power of intercourse with Christian hearts there is danger that the scholar, and too often the teacher, will come back weakened in spiritual strength and earnestness. Too often it requires several sessions after vacation to get the school into as good a state as when it closed.

A third apology for vacation is—"So many are away that the school drags and had better be intermitted altogether." This reason is exaggerated. The records of this Union show that the average attendance during the third quarter of last year was more than three-fourths of that of the same schools during the second quarter.

Surely the stay-at-homes need our care quite as much as those who go away and there are many strangers in Newton in the summer who are not here at other seasons. If all the schools in our land were open the year round and all our members should attend wherever they might be, there would only be an exchange of membership, but with no diminution in the aggregate; a consummation devoutly to be wished.

It is believed that there are no valid reasons for discontinuing our Sunday school work in the summer, but abundant reasons for continuing it in full vigor. *Satan takes no vacation*, but makes the most of any abatement of Christian work. Suppose the powers of evil were to take a two months' vacation and withdraw the temptations spread before our youth on every hand—the wine cup, the evil companions, the miserable literature everywhere prevalent as the frogs of Egypt, the temptations without and within, would not every Christian rally to the work, feeling that there was his opportunity, and would not important ground be gained that would never be lost? But reverse the case and what happens? Let us abate our work just at the time when the vices of city and country combine to tempt the unwary youth, and does not Satan get a foothold in many a heart that he will not vacate?

Can we afford to throw away the precious hour we have once a week with the two thousand scholars in our schools even in the summer months? Some of these have been saved because of earnest, prayerful work; some will be lost in spite of our best endeavors; between these extremes lies a multitude moved like the sea by the slightest breath of influence for good or evil. The powers of evil never sleep. While men sleep the enemy sows tares. Shall we who have been bought at such a price, who are warned to "redeem the time because the days are evil," take our ease in spiritual sleep only to awake, like Sampson, shorn of our strength?

"Go labor on, spend and be spent,

Thy joy to do thy Saviour's will;

It is the way the Master went,

Should not the servant tread it still?"

OTHER REMARKS.

Geo. S. Trowbridge said the Eliot school had never had a vacation so we do not know anything about dropping the standard. The early workers in the Sunday School never thought of a vacation.

Mr. L. E. Leland of the West Newton Baptist school thought parents depend too much on the Sunday School for the religious training of their children. A certain educator has said, "How is it that children learn so much and know so little." I have thought that perhaps if there was a month's vacation and the children were at home, would not the parents feel the responsibility of their children and look after their religious training at home? Is it not too much neglected?

Mr. C. H. Washburn, of the Pine Farm Home, followed with a few remarks.

It was announced that the next meeting would be at Nonantum.

Newton Octob 19 1884.
 The 183 Quarterly meeting
 of the Union was held this evening in the
 North Evangelical Church at 6.30

President A. L. Barbour in the chair.
 Scripture reading by Vic Pres Sylvester.
 Prayer by Rev W. A. Lamb, pastor of
 the Church.

The records of the last meeting were
 read & approved.

The following Superintendents
 reports were presented.

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	99
Average attendance	50
Contributions	\$26.30
Baptist	Newton
Whole number	270
Average	155
Contributions	\$26.00

Eliot	Newton
Whole number	383
Average	266
Contributions	\$48.31
Teachers' meetings	2
Congregations united with the Ch for the S.	2

Channing	Newton
Whole number	200
Average	132
Teacher's meetings	3
Unitarian	Newton Centre
Whole number	56
Average	31
Teacher's meetings	2
Congregational	Highlands
Whole number	185
Average	100
Contributions	20.05
Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	65
Average	45
Contributions	7.95
Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	149
Average	84
Contributions	7.54
Baptist	W. Newton
Whole number	165
Average	102
Contributions	\$31.62
Conversions	2

N. Y. the Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers' meetings

N. Y. the Baptist
 58
 34
 \$4.00
 3

Universalist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers' meetings

Newtownville
 91
 80
 \$8.15
 5

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Newtownville
 260
 130
 \$15.70

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Teachers' meetings

Amburdale
 228
 112
 13

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 North Evangelical
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers' meetings

West Newton
 307
 206
 \$17.39
 Newton
 158
 132
 \$224.11
 2

Methodist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

Newtonville

125

$\frac{4}{10}$

\$16.11

1

Recapitulation
 Number of Schools reported 16
 Whole number 2799
 Average attendance 1429
 Contributions \$251.59
 Teacher's meetings 30
 Conversions or united with the Church 5

The Secretary moved the following
 Resolutions which we passed
 unanimously

Resolved. That in the death of Brother Joseph A. Newell of the 2nd Congregational Church West Newton, this Union loses one of its oldest and most useful members.

Resolved. That his long experience as Superintendent, and his longer service as a teacher, qualified him for great usefulness, and that we appreciate the freeness and abundance of his labors for many years, as President, Vice President, member of the Board, and a private member, in advancing the interest of this Society, and of the cause of Christ by the work of the Sunday School.

Resolved. That these resolutions be entered upon the record of the Union.

The subject of the evening
 "How can we reach the spiritual
 nature of the Children" was then
 presented by Mr W. B. Savage
 of North Cambridge. He was
 followed by Chas S Marsh of Newton,
 Mr. A. Bates of Newton Upper Falls,
 Rev W. A. Lamb, H. A. Ball of Newton,

* President Barbour. It was announced
that the next meeting in July would be
held at Newton.

Adjourned
Geo. L. Dunne
Secretary.

Newton Jan'y 18th 1885.
 The 46 Annual meeting of the
 Newton Sunday School Union was held
 this evening in Eliot Church Newton.

President W. L. Barber in the Chair.
 Reading of scriptures by the Rev Sylvester.
 Prayer was offered by Rev R. A. White
 of Newtonville. Records of the last
 meeting were read and approved.
 The following Supts reports
 were presented.

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	135
Average	86
Contributions	\$10.11
Conversions	1
Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	73
Average	45
Contributions	\$19.69
Congl	Tribunada
Whole number	228
Average	157
Contributions	\$305.47
Teachers meetings	13
Conversions united by Ch. School	5

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

West Newton
 307
 198
 \$32.62

Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

West N.
 200
 131
 \$147.53
 2

Mistle
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers' meetings

West N.
 56
 44
 \$3.50
 3

Universalist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teacher's meeting

Newtonville
 115
 104
 \$88.56
 13

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

Newtonville
 261
 174
 \$47.44
 2

Methodist	Newtonville
Whole number	125
Average	86
Contributions	\$27.00
Teacher's meetings	1
Conversions	7

North Evangelical	Newton
Whole number	195
Average	143
Contributions	\$21.38
Teacher's meetings	3
Conversions	1

E. C. C.	Newton
Whole number	423
Average	298
Contributions	\$114.89
Teacher's meetings	3

Channing	Newton
Whole number	200
Average	131
Contributions	\$70.00
Teacher's meetings	12

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	280
Average	188
Contributions	\$79.28
Teacher's meetings	10

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	114
Average	62
Contributions	\$15.30
Conversions	17

Unitarian	Centre
Whole number	48
Average	37
Contributions	\$12.40

Congl	N. Highland
Whole number	184
Average	121
Contributions	\$22.64

Recapitulation	
No of Schools Reported	16
Whole number	2944
Average	2005
Contributions	\$1017.51
Teacher's Meetings	58
Conversions or united with Ch.	22

The Secretary & Treasurers report was presented and accepted showing a balance in the Treasury of \$33.06

The Superintendents retired and reported the following list of Officers for the ensuing year

For President A. T. Sylvester
 " Vice President E. W. Gay
 " Secretary & Treas Geo. A. Dunne
 " Directors

A. L. Barbours of West Newton

A. M. Davis - Newton Centre

"The Teachers Work in the Sunday School" was ably presented by ^{the} Rev J. T. Durfee D.D. of Boston, a printed report is hereto annexed.

Adjourned to the third Sunday in April

Geo. A. Dunne
 Secretary

SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

Forty-Sixth Annual Meeting—Address by Dr. Duryea.

The 46th annual meeting of the Sunday school Union was held Sunday night at Eliot church, this being the first time in two years that the Union had met in Newton. There was a much larger attendance than ordinarily. President A. L. Barbour occupied the chair. An opening anthem was sung by the Eliot choir. Vice President A. T. Sylvester read from the Scriptures and Rev. Mr. White of Newtonville offered prayer. Quarterly reports from 16 schools were read, as follows;—

	Mem- bers.	Av. At- tendance.	Contri- butions.
Newton—Eliot.....	423	298	\$114 59
Baptist.....	280	188	79 28
Channing.....	200	131	70 00
Methodist.....	114	62	15 30
Nonantum—No. Evangelical..	195	143	21 38
Newtonville—Congregational..	261	174	47 44
Universalist.....	114	104	88 56
Methodist.....	125	76	27 00
West Newton—Baptist.....	200	131	147 53
Congregational	307	128	32 62
Myrtle.....	50	40	2 25
Auburndale—Congregational..	238	157	*305 47
Upper Falls—Methodist.....	135	86	22 11
Baptist.....	78	45	19 62
Newton H'lds—Congregat'nal.	184	121	22 64
Newton Center—Unitarian...	48	37	12 40

Total 16 schools.....2941 2005

*For the year.

The secretary, George C. Dunne, read his annual report, reviewing the meetings of the past year, and stating that the contributions for the year had been \$2157.13, teachers' meetings 178; conversions or admissions to churches from schools, 127. Twelve schools have reported every quarter. The expenses of the year were \$28.60; balance now on hand, \$33.06. The following officers were elected: President, A. T. Sylvester of Newtonville; vice president, E. W. Gay, Newton; secretary and treasurer, George C. Dunne, Newton; directors, A. L. Barbour, West Newton, and A. M. Davis, Newton Center. President Barbour said he had done what he could to revive interest in the Union during the year and hoped his successor would have still more success.

Rev. Joseph T. Duryea of Boston made the address of the evening on "The teacher's work in the Sunday school." If we are earnest and thorough in our work as teachers, he said, we have definite objects in view and bend our efforts to their accomplishment. Quickening the minds of the pupils and helping them to knowledge, are the aims of ordinary teachers; but we are striving for ends more vital. We wish to see our pupils giving themselves to God as their Father; the disciples and followers of Jesus, going about doing good, growing in strength and beauty of character. If they are to be led to the Father, they must have the gift, and in them the work, of the Holy Spirit. There must be the personal influence of the teacher, mixed with the power of the Spirit. The truth you teach must first flash as living light from your person and burn and glow with living fire, before it will kindle the mind and heart of your pupil with divine love for man. Let the life of Christ run in the teacher's blood and every touch of the teacher's life upon the pupil's life will impart the Holy Spirit.

In closing, Dr. Duryea told a story of a woman's influence over a wild class of boys in a mission Sunday school. We started the school, he said, in the basement of an old rookery,—one policeman inside to keep order, and two outside to keep the crowd from rolling paving stones in upon us. It was a wild and dirty crowd that came at first; but some progress was made among them by the personal influence of the teachers, and they gradually sobered down. But there was one class of boys that no man could tame. In a few weeks they wore out three teachers, and finally the superintendent decided that they must go. A delicate woman offered to take the class rather than have them leave. After the opening exercises she opened a book, but before she could say a word one of the boys offered her "a chew of tobacco," the next boy brought out a pack of cards and the third one a variety theater bill. Thus they "disciplined" her through the hour, but she held herself firmly, did not show the least temper and did not let them tease her. The second Sunday was like the first, but after that she began to gain. She went into their homes, met them one by one,

talked about their work, and little by little began to show that she had taken the class for love of the boys. She went on entwining herself about them, and though I never saw a more hardened set, they were gradually softened. They paid more attention to their clothes; a sort of refinement began to creep over their faces; until at last there was not a more quiet and thoughtful class in the school. And I shall never forget how, when I had stood by her through a surgical operation, those boys were standing around the house and grasped my hand and asked if she had lived through it. Day after day, until she was able to come back, one or the other was at her door to bear the tidings to the rest. Now in that city as the outgrowth of that school you will see a church that cost \$40,000, a congregation as orderly as any in the city, and you will see one or the other of those boys in the chair at the prayer meetings. It was the heart of Christ in the heart of the woman—Christ born anew, incarnate, living, revealed in the world once more through her.

Newton April 19th 1885.

The 186 quarterly meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union was held this evening at 7 O'clock in the Methodist Church Newtonville.

Reading the Scriptures by Dr. S. F. Spaulding & Bays by Rev. R. F. Holway. The Records of the last meeting were read and approved. The following

Superintendents reports were then presented.

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	280
Average	211
Contributions	\$39.04
Teacher's meetings	13
Conversions	2

Channing	Newton
Whole number	180
Average	147
Contributions	\$34.16

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	128
Average	70
Contributions	\$28.32

Crot

Scuba

Whole number

433

Average

305

Contributions

\$128.99

Teacher's meeting / Conversions /

North Evangelical

Nonantum

Whole number

204

Average

153

Contributions

\$25.00

Teacher's meetings

1

Conversions

3

Congl

Newtonville

Whole number

258

Average

174

Contributions

\$45.73

United with the Ch for the S.S.

1

Methodist

Newtonville

Whole number

135

Average

91

Contributions

\$24.65

Teacher's meetings

2

Conversions

4

Universalist

Newtonville

Whole number

130

Average

95

Contributions

\$22.22

Congl	W. Newton
Whole number	260
Average	219
Contributions	\$48.59
Teachers meetings	4

Baptist	W. Newton
Whole number	210
Average	136
Contributions	\$44.39
Conversions	1

Myrtle Baptist	W. Newton
Whole number	65
Average	50
Contributions	\$3.00
Conversions	4

Congl	Auburndale
Whole number	233
Average	159
Teachers meetings	13.

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	115
Average	89
Contributions	\$8.93

Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	75
Average	47
Contributions	\$7.83

Congl	Highland
Whole number	192
Average	125
Contributions	\$27.79
Conversions	1

Recapitulation	
Number of Schools reported	15
Whole number	2908
Average	2069
Contributions	\$488.64
Teacher's meetings	34
Conversions or united with the Church for the School	18.

Rev Dr Henry S. Spaulding of
Newton addressed the Union on
"Paul at Puteoli and Rome"
relating to the Sunday School Lessons
for April 19th & 26th. A printed
report is annexed. After a vote
of thanks to Dr Spaulding & singing
by the church choir we adjourned at 8.30
Geo. C. Dunne
Secretary

The 185th quarterly meeting of the Newton Union was held Sunday evening, in the Methodist Church, Newtonville. There was a large audience present and the exercises were conducted by the president A. T. Sylvester. The meeting opened with the singing of the chant "I waited for the Lord" by the choir, which was followed by reading of the scriptures by Rev. H. G. Spaulding, prayer by Rev. R. F. Holway, reading of the records of the last meeting by the secretary Mr. George C. Dunne. The following quarterly reports from the Sunday schools were read and accepted. Eliot Church, whole number connected with the school, 433; average attendance, 305; contributions, \$128.99; teachers meetings, 1; conversions, 1. Newton Baptist, whole number connected with the school, 280; average attendance, 211; contributions, \$39.04; teachers meetings, 13; conversions, 2. Second Congregational, West Newton, whole number connected with the school, 260; average attendance, 219; contributions, \$48.49; teachers meetings, 4; conversions, 1. Central Congregational, Newtonville, whole number connected with the school, 258; average attendance, 174; contributions, \$45.73; united with the church from the Sunday school, 1. Anburndale Congregational, whole number connected with the school, 233; average attendance, 159; contributions taken in class boxes and reported at the end of the year; teachers meetings, weekly. North Evangelical, Nonantum, whole number connected with the school, 204; average attendance, 153; contributions, \$25; teachers meetings, 1; conversions, 3. Channing, whole number connected with school, 180; average attendance, 147; contributions, \$34.16. Methodist, Newtonville, whole number connected with school, 135; average attendance, 91; contributions, \$24.65; teachers meetings, 2; conversions, 4. Newton Universalist, whole number connected with school, 130; average attendance, 95; contributions, \$22.22. Newton Methodist, whole number connected with school, 128; average attendance, 79; contributions, \$28.32. First Methodist, Upper Falls, whole number connected with school, 115; average attendance, 89; contributions, \$893. Baptist Church, Upper Falls, whole number connected with school, 75; average attendance, 47; contributions, \$7.83. West Newton Myrtle street Baptist, whole number connected with the school, 65; average attendance, 50; contributions, \$3; conversions, 4.

Rev. H. C. Spaulding then spoke on the International Sunday-school Lessons for April 16th and 26th as follows: Several weeks ago, he thought that he might in some measure impart to others some knowledge of what he had seen in Italy and Rome. Had he been present at all the schools at their session on that day, he would have tried to introduce all the side lights upon the subject that he could. First, he would have spoken about the ship, a great lumbering merchantman, so awkwardly furnished with sails and the steering done by two oars over the quarters of the ship. The Pagan figure head and captain and crew and the scenery along the coast. At the bay of Naples he would have seen the light-house that stands at the entrance of the harbor, and coasting along would have seen the shores of Surrentum; then the reservoirs and finally he arrived at Puteoli, which was then the trading port of Italy and no doubt the resort of numerous foreigners.

One of the Roman Emperors, to protect this harbor, had twenty-five arches erected near it, and at this place there were large iron and pottery manufactories. Here the centurion allowed Paul a week's delay, which enabled him to confer with the brethren and here he found a little church established. In this old Roman town was a market place, and in an open court, (which was described by the speaker) was the place where animals were daily slaughtered. In connection with this was a kind of Roman ceremony and worship and on this account it was difficult to introduce the Christian religion here. It was at this place that the questions of eating meats came before Paul for his decision. He took a broad ground and told the people to come to the Shambles and buy and ask no questions for conscience sake. These matters did not touch the pith and core of the gospel, and it was a matter of indifference about eating meats. I would have liked to have talked to the children to-day about the upper part of that old town, the amphitheatre and other points of interest and questioned what Paul would have said about the brutality here. It would have availed him nothing to have spoken against it there; he could only try to spread abroad that brotherly love that Christ had and that in time would arise and destroy it.

In your studies next week you will follow Paul from Puteoli to Rome. We shall pass along the Appian Way, past the ruined aqueducts, the Appii Forum, the Three Taverns, the Catacombs, etc., which today present a desolate appearance. We pass the ruined palaces, and winding our way over the seven hills of Rome, reach the arches of Constantine and Titus so important and intimately connected with the Christian religion. Then to the Roman Forum, the place where he was brought and delivered up. His first lodging was probably in this palace, which has about as many rooms as the Vatican.

The speaker then described the intimate relation that the form of the church as today bears to the Judges hall. Today there remains there but an aisle, part of the altar and some ornamental marble work, and standing there one cannot but imagine the meeting between Paul and the Emperor. Here the speaker spoke of the first church of Rome and the little chapel of Clement, which was built and perhaps used while Paul was there. Paul's intimate relations for two years and the figurative characteristics he drew from them, must have been the sources from which he drew such expressions as "the good fight of faith," "the breast plate of righteousness, etc." In the end of the second captivity of Paul, when he was led out to his place of execution Aquae Salviae (or Trefontane as it is now called,) we follow him over the Ostian way and through the Ostia gate.

The road, which is now one of the most desolate outlets into the country around Rome, was then hedged in on both sides by the tombs and monuments of the dead, and was neither an avenue of suburban dwellings nor a thoroughfare of popular resort. Almost the last place to visit in Rome is the tomb of St. Paul. To-day Rome bears upon her breast the brightest jewel there, and it is this temple. It is inferior only to the cathedral of St. Peter, the most sumptuous of all Christian temples. While the houses of some of the monks then in power, while Paul was a prisoner, are in ruins, and planted in low pestilential spots, passed only by a few fever-stricken monks, or hasty travellers, the temple of St. Paul is crowded day after day by residents and strangers and has become the centre of devotion of the most numerous denomination of Christian believers. Can we not draw some lesson from the contrast? The lesson the speaker would have the large audience take home, was that they should seem to follow on, and be able to say with Paul when the conflict was over, "I have fought the good fight, I have finished the course, I have kept the faith." Mr. Sylvester then extended a vote of thanks to Mr. Spaulding for his entertaining address. After singing "Lord Dismiss us with Thy Blessing," the benediction was pronounced by Rev. Mr. White.

Newton July 19 1885.

The Board of Directors were disappointed several times in securing an Essay of the July meeting and at the last moment we were compelled to abandon the meeting for this quarter.

The following are the Superintendent's reports

Clint School

Newton

Whole number

405

Average

288

Contributions

\$118.78

Teacher's meetings

2

United with the Church

1

Baptist

Newton

Whole number

237

Average

180

Contributions

\$36.62

Teacher's meetings

3

Conversions

1

Methodist

Newton

Whole number

128

Average

65

Contributions

30.67

Conversion

4

North Evangelical
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers meetings

Monrovia

180

152

\$20.09

1

Universalist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Keokukville

108

91

\$46.63

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Keokukville

245

162

\$38.16

Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

W. Keokuk

160

140

\$55.24

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Teachers meetings

Auburndale

220

139

13

Methodist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Lower Falls

60

31

\$12.63

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	122
Average	74
Contributions	\$8.19
Teacher's meetings	1

Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	74
Average	47
Contributions	\$6.90
Conversions	1

Congl	Highlands
Whole number	191
Average	124
Contributions	\$24.18

Unitarian	Centre
Whole number	66
Average	40
Contributions	\$5.92

Recapitulation	
Who of Schools	13
Whole number	2196
Average	1533
Contributions	\$404.01
Teacher's meetings	20
Conversions	7

Geo. L. Durin Secy.

Newton Oct 18th 1885.

The 184 Quarterly meeting of the
Newton Sunday School Union was held this
evening in the Congl Church Newton Highlan
at 7 O'clock. President A. T. Sylvester
in the Chair. Reading of Scriptures and
Prayer by Rev Geo. W. Phipps, pastor of the Church.
Records of the last meeting were read and
approved.

The following Superintendents' reports
were presented

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	235
Average	134
Contributions	\$22.53

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	128
Average	46
Contributions	\$19.00
Conversions	6

Eliot	Newton
Whole number	421
Average	246
Contributions	\$43.19

North Evangelical
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Conantum
 194
 131
 \$21.01

Universalist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Newtonville
 104
 63
 \$8.65

Methodist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Newtonville
 120
 61
 \$10.11

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Newtonville
 245
 140
 \$14.97

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

West Newton
 290
 149
 \$28.89

Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

West Newton
 164
 102
 \$28.46
 4

Congl	Auburndale
Whole number	220
Average	103
Teacher's meetings	11

Methodist	Lower Falls
Whole number	50
Average	29
Contributions	\$9.69

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	124
Average	65
Contributions	\$7.06
Teacher's meetings	

Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	74
Average	47
Contributions	\$6.90

Congl	Highland
Whole number	190
Average	103
Contributions	25.85

Unitarian	Center
Whole number	60

Recapitulation	
Number of Schools Reported	15
Whole number	2619
Average	1453
Contributions	\$241.31
Teacher's meetings	11
Conventions or united with the Church for the School	10

An able and very interesting address on "Aim and Method in Moral Education" was delivered by Rev R. A. White of Newtonville. he was followed by C. H. Wilson of Newton Centre. W. A. Gates, of Upper Falls. Rev Geo. W. Phipps, Mr D. Cobb of Newton Highlands, J. F. C. Hyde & Dr. D. G. Harrington.

adjourned to January
Geo. C. Dunne
Secretary.

Newton Jan'y 19th 1886.

The 44th Annual meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union was held this evening in the Congl. Church, Amburndale. President A. S. Sylvester in the Chair. Prayer was offered by the Rev. Calvin Cutler, pastor of the Church. The records of the last meeting were read and approved.

The following Superintendents reports were read.

Eliot	Newton
Whole number	429
Average	319
Contributions	\$111.23
Conversions united with the Ch.	1

Channing	Newton
Whole number	161
Average	134
Contributions	\$44.00

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	150
Average	73
Contributions	\$23.93
Teachers meetings	1
Conversions	6

North Evangelical
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teacher's meetings

Newton
 219
 162
 \$31.02
 1

Long
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Newtonville
 237
 168
 \$57.55

Universalist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teacher's meetings

Newtonville
 121
 89
 \$33.64
 6

Methodist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Teachers meetings

Newtonville
 120
 85
 \$30.00
 2

Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

West Newton
 210
 162
 \$48.94
 2

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions
 Conversions

West. Newton
 250
 209
 \$38.37
 6)

Myrtle
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

W. Newton
 65
 50
 \$3.00

Congl
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions for the year
 Teacher's meetings

Amburdale
 228
 161
 \$267.48
 13

Baptist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Upper Falls
 80
 45
 \$6.40

Methodist
 Whole number
 Average
 Contributions

Upper Falls
 125
 86
 \$28.26

Congl	N. Highland
Whole number	212
Average	135
Contributions	\$ 44.43

Unitarian	N. Centre
Whole number	87
Average	58
Contributions	\$ 16.09
Teacher's meetings	8

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	238
Average	188
Contributions	\$ 62.89
Conversions	2

Recapitulation	
Number of Schools Reported	16
Whole number of Scholars	2930
Average attendance	2120
Contributions	\$ 47.23
Teacher's meetings	31
Conversions	17

The Annual report of the Secretary and Treasurer was presented and showed the Total contributions reported by the Schools to be \$1981.19; Teacher's meetings

96, conversions or united with the churches from the schools 52. The Treasurer's report showed expenses during the year \$11.30 Balance on hand \$50.90

The Superintendents retired to report a list of Officers.

The address of the evening was then made by Rev. A. E. Winship of Somerville on "How to Teach the Bible to form character" it was very ably presented and of great interest. A printed report is hereto annexed.

The Superintendents reported the following lists of Officers

For President E. H. Gay of Newton

Vice Pres W. H. Blood Auburndale

Secy & Treas A. L. Barbour W. Newton

Directors

A. M. Davis Newton Centre

A. G. Sherman Newtonville

the report was accepted & adopted.

Adjourned

Geo. B. Durane
Secretary

Newton Sunday School Union.

The forty-seventh annual meeting of the union was held Sunday evening at 7 o'clock in the Congregational Church, Auburndale. Nearly every seat in the church was occupied. President A. T. Sylvester occupied the chair. Prayer was offered by Rev. Calvin Cutler. The Secretary and Treasurer Mr. Geo. C. Dunne, presented his fifth annual report which showed the total membership for the last quarter from 16 schools 2,930. Average attendance for the same quarter, 2,120. Contributions reported during the year, \$1,981.19. Teachers meetings reported, 96. Conversions reported, 53. Treasurer's report showed balance on hand last annual meeting, \$33.06; collections at the quarters meetings \$25.72; interest Newton Savings Bank, \$3.42—total \$62.20. Expense during the year \$11.30. Balance on hand \$50.90. The secretary after five years of service, requested the union to elect his successor. The superintendents retired and reported the following list of officers for the ensuing year: President, E. W. Gay of Newton; Vice President, Wm. H. Blood, Auburndale; Sec'y and Treas., Alfred L. Barbour, West Newton; Directors, Alex. M. Davis, Newton Centre, A. G. Sherman, Newtonville. A vote of thanks was passed to Geo. C. Dunne for his faithful service as secretary for the past five years.

The speaker of the evening was Rev. A. E. Winslip of Somerville, formerly a grammar school teacher in Newton, who treated his subject in an original way, holding the close attention of the large audience, some of whom must have been filled with new ideas to help them in Sunday school work. "How to teach the Bible to form character" was the subject of the address which treated of the work the Sunday school should do for those children who have no religious instruction at home, and who leave the school and go out into the world unconverted. With such it is not the mission of the school to teach the Bible as an end but as the means to an end, namely the formation of character. The dual aim of the school is to so teach the Bible as to direct and stimulate choices, form and intensify belief. He treated of the former. Choice is the selection of one of two courses of thought and activity. There are many influences, complicated oftentimes, that go to determine the choice, which is not left to the will as was formerly supposed. The Bible texts well chosen afford the best directive force in making these choices. They should be wisely selected and thoroughly memorized under 10 or 12 years of age. He made a special study of the impulses which determine choices. He showed that the end sought is self-control, and that obedience is but a means to that end. He took as one special illustration the teacher in her attempt to secure the attention of her class. At first it must be won, not commanded; then they should be taught to control it for themselves, and finally give it without effort of the will. He gave an example of the way he had known one teacher to use the Bible in forming character, in giving pupils self-control. His description of the distinction between mental growth and development was a sharp outlining of principles that should be observed in Sunday school management as well as teaching. He used several illustrations that it is impossible to report but which served to enliven the address. One on Echo Bridge at the Upper Falls was evidently appreciated by the audience. He had stood in the arch that spans the Charles, and when conditions of voice and air favored had counted an echo some twelve times. At first the echo had all the peculiarities of his own voice but as it went up they disappeared until only the vocal tone in all its purity trembled as it reached the key stone of the arch. This he used as illustrating the way in which properly used, our influence in various ways echoed less and less of self and more and more of the spirit of Him whose truth we teach.

Newton Apr (18th / 1886)

The 109 Quarterly meeting of the Union was held this evening in the Baptist Church Newton. Vic President Wm H. Blood in the chair. After reading selections from Isa 52 & 53 by the Chairman Prayer was offered by Rev H. F. Titus Pastor of the Church. Records of the last meeting were read & approved. The following Superintendents' reports were read.

Baptist	Newton
Whole number	276
Average	202
Contributions	\$79.69
Conversions	15

Methodist	Newton
Whole number	134
Average	94
Contributions	\$34.93
Teacher's meetings	2

North Evangelical	Conantum
Whole number	207
Average	157
Contributions	\$20.15

Universalist	Newtownville
Whole number	122
Average	85
Contributions	19.52
Teacher's meetings	13

Methodist	Newtownville
Whole number	124
Average	89
Contributions	\$22.09

Congl	Newtownville
Whole number	236
Average	155
Contributions	\$56.39

Baptist	W. Newton
Whole number	200
Average	130
Contributions	\$4.09
Conversions (Baptisms)	20

Methodist	Auburndale
Whole number	120
Average	88
Contributions	\$36.18

Baptist	Upper Falls
Whole number	71
Average	50
Contributions	8.37

Methodist	Upper Falls
Whole number	100
Average	80
Contributions	\$12.09

Unitarian	Newton Centre
Whole number	84
Average	50
Contributions	\$17.77
Teachers' meetings	17

Congl	Auburn Falls
Whole number	252
Average	155
Teachers' meetings	13
Conversions or united with ch fch.	9

Congl	N. Newton
Whole number	320
Average	240
Contributions	\$41.99
Teachers' meetings	1

Chist	Newton
Whole number	390
Average	286
Contributions	\$141.72
Conversions or united with Ch	4

Recapitulation	
Number of School reported	14
Whole number	2558
Average	1841
Contributions	\$554.98
Teachers' meetings	36
Conversions or united with Ch for Sch	48

Mr E. W. Gay, elected President and Mr A. L. Babour elected Secretary & Treasurer at the annual meeting in January both declined to accept on account of other duties. The Superintendents retired & reported the following to fill the vacancies:-

For President Mr A. J. Grover, Upper Falls
 " Secy & Treas " W. H. Partridge, Newton
 the report was accepted and adopted. After singing Chaiman Blood introduced Mr M. B. Hazard of Boston, Editor of "The Pilgrim Teacher"

who addressed the Union on "Dynamics of Sunday School Teaching" it was a very able and interesting address.

Adjourned at 8.30
Geo. A. Dunne
Secy for term.

^{190th}
The Quarterly Meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union was held in the Methodist Church Newton Lower Falls October 17, 1887. at 6-30 P.m. The meeting opened with a praise service led by Mr. Hugh Campbell of Newton followed by reading of Scriptures by the President Mr. A. J. Grover and of prayer by Rev. J. B. Gould. Mr. Arthur R. Cole of West Newton was appointed Secretary pro tem and read the records of the last meeting. Nine schools reported as follows,

<u>Newton Methodist.</u>		North Evangelical Association
Whole Number	136	224
Average Attendance	57	139
Contributions	11.81.	24.32
Conversions	1	None
<u>Universalist Newtonville.</u>		Congregational West Newton
Whole Number	129	298
Average Attendance	74	209
Contributions	10.94	54.96
Conversions	None	1.

<u>Congregational Auburndale.</u>		<u>Methodist Auburndale.</u>	
Whole Number	207		120
Average Attendance	110		52
Contributions	Class boxes		33.27
Conversions	None	Deaf	None
		Teachers Meetings	one

<u>Baptist Upper Falls.</u>		<u>Methodist Upper Falls.</u>	
Whole Number	67		115
Average Attendance	32		66
Contributions	4.09		11.00
Conversions	None		None

Methodist Lower Falls.

Whole Number	53
Average Attendance	24
Contributions	8.88

At the close of the reports an address was given by Mrs. Maria Upham Drake upon Temperance in the Sunday School, the subject for discussion. The address was one of unusual interest, clearly portraying the miseries of intemperance and the need of more work done by our schools for the cause of Temperance. Mr. Gould made some supplementary remarks, after which the meeting closed with singing and benediction.

(Signed) Arthur R. Coe
Secretary pro tem.

Sunday Evening, January 23. 1887.

191st
Quarterly

The 48th Annual Meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union was held this evening in the Second Congregational Church West Newton, with President N. J. Grover in the Chair and the Reverend H. J. Patrick the pastor and Rev Dr. Townsend in the pulpit. After a voluntary upon the organ, the Choir under Prof. Nowbridge sang a beautiful selection. Rev. H. J. Patrick made the opening prayer and Vice Pres. W. H. Blood read some beautiful Scripture selections from the book of Job.

The records of the last Meeting were read by the Secretary who also made his annual report as Treasurer. The sum of \$59.85 was reported as received by him while the expenses were \$4.35 leaving a balance of Cash on hand \$55.50. The usual reading of the reports from the different Schools was by vote suspended in order to give the preacher the time. The Superintendents reported, after retirement, through Mr. E. A. Marsh the following list of Officers for the Union for the ensuing year.

For President	G. D. Gilman	Newton.
" Vice President	H. A. Inman	West Newton.
" Secretary & Treasurer	W. H. Partridge	Newton.
" Director	D. F. Barber	Newton

The election of the other Director was left to the

Newly elected Board of Managers. The entire list of officers and their recommendation was accepted and adopted. and

G. D. Gilman was elected President.

H. A. Inman was elected Vice President.

W. H. Partidge was elected Secretary & Treasurer.

D. F. Barber was elected Director.

Rev. L. T. Townsend D.D. Professor at Boston University was introduced and for an hour addressed the large congregation gathered upon the Mosaic Account of the Creation. It was an intensely interesting and powerful address to the teachers present, and all who had been studying the International Series of Lessons in the Book of Genesis. It was a bold and reasonable defence of the inspired account of the Creation. The service was interspersed with singing by the Choir and the Congregation. After the benediction by the Pastor the meeting was adjourned.

William H. Partidge
Secretary.

West Newton Jan 16th 1887

Dear Bro Partridge

In accordance with my promise to you yesterday, I brought before our school the matter of our withdrawal from the Newton S. S. Union, and the vote was reconsidered and laid on the table. And consequently our formal notice to you we will withdraw, and will consider ourselves as still members of the Union. We shall be glad to have the meeting in our church on next Lab Eve, and I believe with you that the address will be one of the best, and hope we may have a full house.

I had thought some time ago that I would write you in reference to the Union, which it seemed to me

was not accomplishing much, save the gathering of the quarterly statistics, and that did not seem to me to be worth the time & labor involved.

And our attendance at the last quarterly meeting seemed to produce the same feeling in all the delegates, as it had in the minds of previous delegates.

When the matter came up in our school for discussion there appeared to be a very general feeling that we had better withdraw.

I certainly wish the Union might be a means of usefulness to all the schools of the city, but think something more or different will be required.

I have noticed at almost all of the meetings which I have attended that but very few of the younger portion of the schools were present; & also that the regular attendants at the church where the meeting was held seemed

to absent themselves,

Don't understand me as finding fault with any one, for it is not for me to say where the trouble lies; but I don't think it is with the officers, certainly not with the present ones,

But if the Union is to live, it seems to me it should live to more purpose.

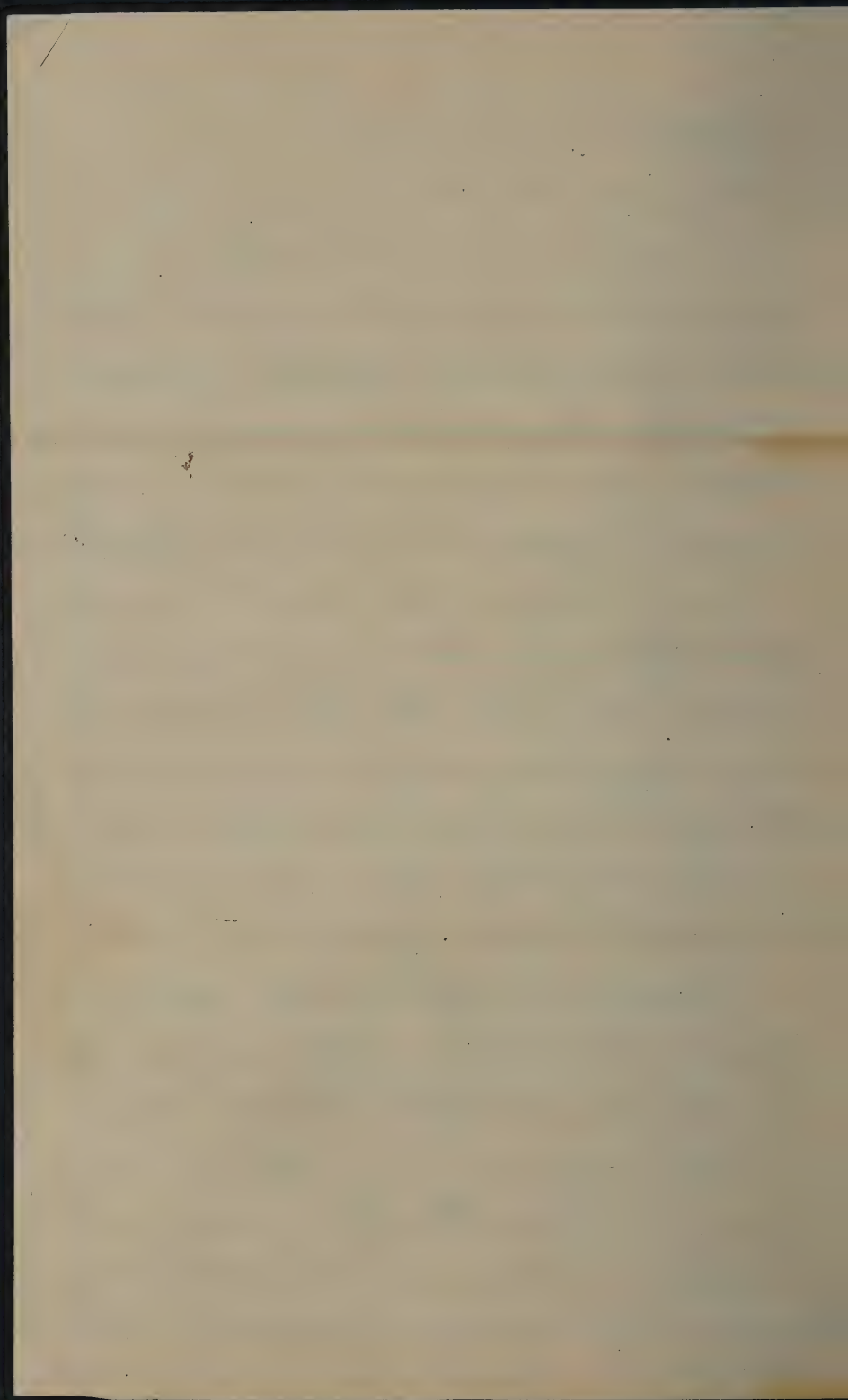
I am sure Prof Townsend will have an address of very great interest next Sunday night and I shall urge our people young & old to attend & trust that large numbers will come from the other churches, and know they will be well repaid.

Pardon these few plain words, which I trust you will receive in the spirit in which I write them.

Yours Resp^{ly}

E. A. Marsh

P.S. You may be sure of our sympathy in the loss of your church to-day E. A. M.



West Newton Mass

Jan 12 1889

Dear Sir

Yours truly and I

will pass your letter into the
hands of our S. S. authorities
with the recommendation that
the meeting be held as
arranged for - The teachers
do not know of the proposed
meeting when they voted to
introduce you to the Union and

Let us not be mistaken of the
Union which they want to be
formed - the School has been
formed in sending delegates - but they
have come since the past two years a
more with increasing dissatisfaction
with the meetings as not so profitable
as those they have at home
- That Union is a mistake

would not like to suffer under
 the reputation of doing this
 to get rid of the meeting with
 us - I think under the
 circumstances that they
 will without doubt amend their
 vote by, confirming membership
 till after this meeting -

The reason of withdrawal
 so far as reported to me has
 nothing to do with ^{the} theological

P. S. I will see that
Early word is sent to you
as to the action of the teachers
I would suggest that for
convenience the fourth
Sabbath evening would be
better than the fifth -

Yours
J. P.

Boston, March 14 1887

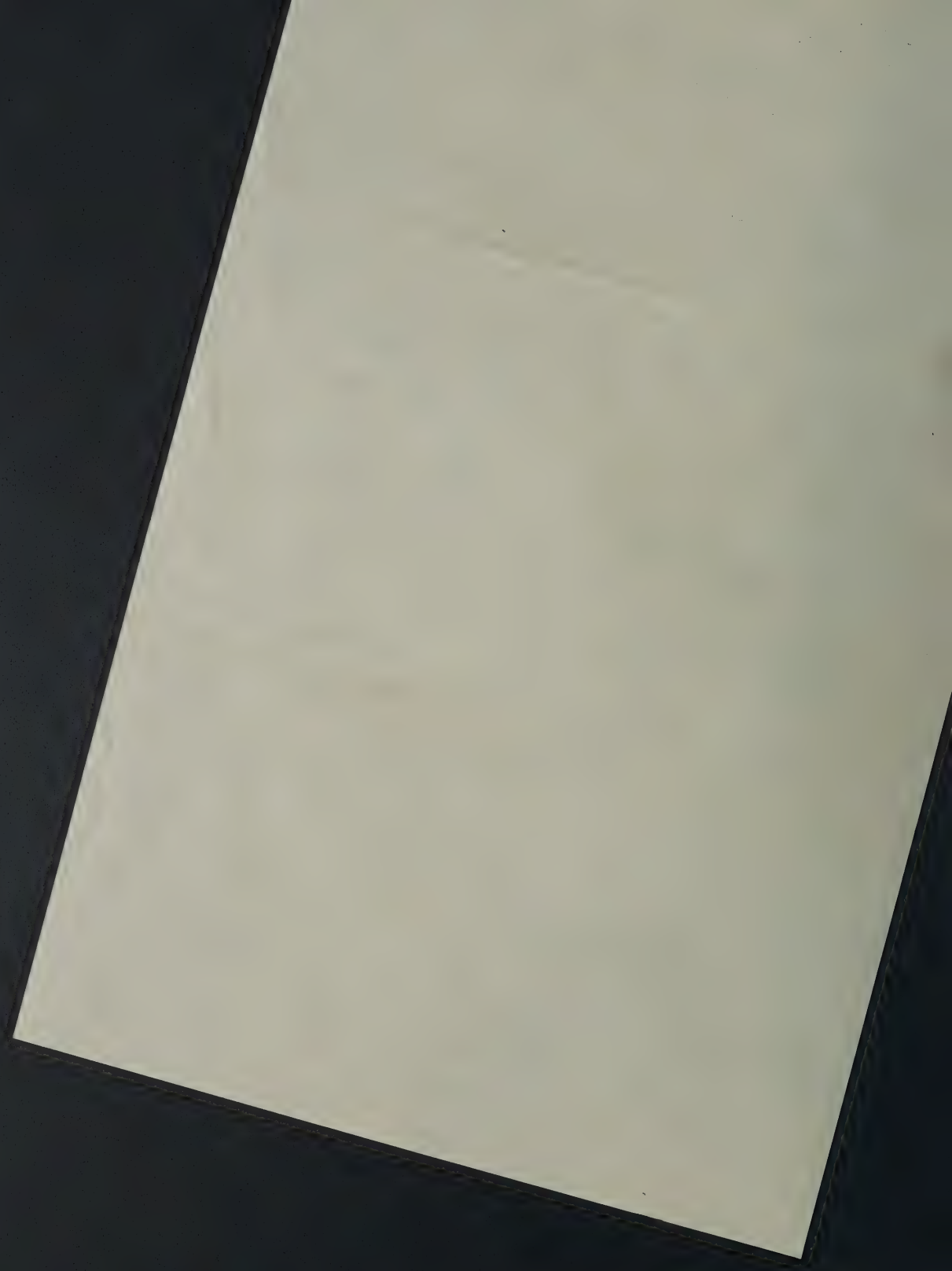
Mr W. H. Partridge.
Dear Brother -

Your letter of Jan'y 24-'87.
informing me of my election
as the President of the "Boston
Sunday School Union" - for the
coming year. was duly received.

I have taken the matter
of accepting the honor under
serious consideration - and
conclude that I must
decline to take the position.
though tendered with such gratifying
unanimity by the union. as
conveys so very pleasantly by
your letter - assuring me of
cordial support in the good
work of the S. S. Union.

I remain very truly.

Your brother, in Christ's service G. D. Gilman



Reports.

<u>2nd Congregational West Newton</u>	
Whole Number	313
Average Attendance	254
Contributions	126.47
Teachers Meetings	one
Conversions	None

<u>Methodist Newtonville</u>	
	108
	82
	26.92

<u>Unitarian Newton Centre</u>	
Whole Number	87
Average Attendance	47
Contributions	25.36

<u>Congregational Auburndale.</u>	
	232
	162
	(class boxes.)

<u>Methodist Upper Falls</u>	
Whole Number	130
Average	89
Contributions	13.68

<u>Universalist Newtonville</u>	
	127
	97
	25.31

<u>Baptist Church West Newton</u>	
Whole Number	210
Average Attendance	160
Contributions	<div> <div> Missions 151.81 General 36.87 </div> 188.68 </div>
Conversions	2

<u>Congregational Newtonville.</u>	
	250
	174
	73.35

<u>Baptist Newton Upper Falls</u>	
Whole Number	77
Average Attendance	50
Contributions	8.81
Conversions	1

<u>Methodist Auburndale</u>	
	128
	85
	51.30
	3
Teachers Meetings	1

Reports Continued.

Methodist Newton.

Whole Number	137
Average Attendance	72
Contributions	23.20
Conversions	1

Myrtle West Newton.

	50
	37
	3.=
Teachers Meetings	1.

North Evangelical Newton.

Whole Number	231
Average Attendance	153
Contributions	29.99
Teachers Meetings	3
Conversions	3

Baptist. Newton.

	287
	197½
	87.99

NEWTON SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

The annual meeting of the Newton Sunday School Union was held at the Second Congregational Church, West Newton, Sunday evening last. The services commenced at 7 o'clock, and a very large number of people from the various religious bodies were in attendance. After the organ voluntary, the choir gave a fine rendition, the solo part being well sustained by Miss Susie M. Riley. Rev. H. J. Patrick, pastor of the church, invoked the divine blessing, and the vice-president of the society read from the Scripture, taking his selections from the 38th chapter of Job. Congregational singing, "Ye Servants of God, your Master Proclaim," was followed by the reading of the records. The reports of the several churches were omitted, and the treasurer's statement showed a considerable cash balance on hand.

After congregational singing, the superintendents of the Sunday schools retired to the west parlor to nominate officers for the ensuing year. During their absence, the choir sang "Softly Fades the Evening Twilight." Agreeably to the report of the nominating committee, the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Gorham D. Gilman; Vice-president, Henry A. Inman; Secretary and Treasurer, W. H. Partridge; Director, D. F. Barber. The officers were empowered to increase the number of directors if deemed advisable.

The address upon this occasion was delivered by Prof. Townsend, and was a definite and thorough treatise of "The Mosaic Account of the Creation," evincing originality of thought and a forcible and scholarly presentation of the subject. We are enabled to present the following abstract of his remarks to our readers:

PROF. TOWNSEND'S ADDRESS.

In considering this question let us see what the Bible teaches us. "In the beginning God created the heaven and the earth. And the earth was without form and void; and darkness was upon the face of the deep; and the spirit of God moved upon the face of the waters. And God said, let there be light;

and there was light. And God saw the light that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light day and the darkness He called night: and the evening and the morning were the first day."

Does the Bible account involve a period of time or does it mean a day and night of twelve hours each? Let us look the matter squarely in the face. The question is asked, how long did it take to make the earth, the planets and man? According to the Hebrew, the word yome or day sometimes denoted a period of time, but this is never the case in sacred writing. The literal sense is invariably assumed in reference to the word day. But it is said, if we accept this sense, we shall conflict with science. We cannot believe there is any conflict with science. Science proves that the earth was thousands of millions of years in building; nevertheless, we repeat that we cannot believe that there is any conflict with science there.

Science proves that there were six clearly defined geological epochs. The first period represents the universe as dark and empty, somehow fetted with star fire and changed to light. The first day or epoch extended over an immense period, and is termed the time of development.

The second epoch was one of vapors and rings of smoke, which eventually broke into masses of fire—our own earth was once a flaming sun. This is succeeded by the third epoch, a period of light, flaming rings and globes of fire—a wonderful period, extending through 300,000,000 years. Then came night, or a lost interval, followed by another cosmical day. This was a period of eruption and flaming volcanoes. Mountain ranges appeared, granite and sandstone were formed and moisture was suspended in the atmosphere, and, according to geologists, covered a period of 100,000,000 years. Another night was followed by day—the age of fishes occurred. Vast deposits of coal were formed. The fifth period was one of high temperature. Reptiles were the distinguishing feature. They are represented as of immense size, ranging from 20 to 60 feet in length. Then came the fowl, the sea monster and every living creature which

the waters brought forth after their kind. Great frogs that would stretch from Newton to Watertown. Just think of it! Then came the period of convulsion and wreck, resulting in the utter devastation of animals. The sixth period was then ushered in. This was the age of the huge mammals and monster carnivora. Others of both classes took their places and great elephants and tigers abounded. The air was filled with growls and roars, and this epoch, after lasting millions of years, was frozen to death. Animals of all sizes and kinds huddled together, in common danger, found their way to caves and perished there. Then the temperature softened and the seas were filled with icebergs. The earth at the conclusion of this period is represented as a vast graveyard. Death was everywhere, and the sun, moon and stars were invisible—the earth had become a roaring flood. After this something merciful occurred: the sun, moon and stars shone, and then, according to geology and science, man appeared to rule the earth.

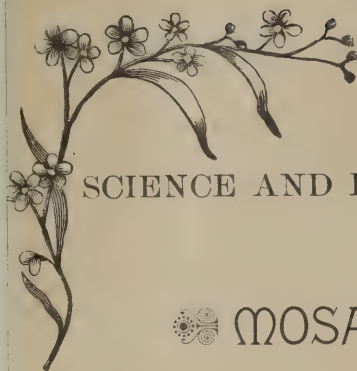
Mark the wonder of these periods and note the disagreement of the scientists as to the classification. Prof. Dana says the epochs were divided into the azoic, mollusk, fishes, coal, reptiles and mammon. Prof. Fenn's classification is the creation of light, creation of the firmament, elevation of the land, sun and moon, creation of reptiles, fishes and birds, and last, mammals and man.

The mosaic account, however, has nothing whatever to do with these periods. Moses does not treat of these geological epochs, but of something later. The geologic and mosaic accounts should be kept entirely distinct from each other. The Written Word does not treat of a period of a million years ago. It says, "in the beginning God created the heaven and the earth." It is neither chance nor revolution, but the Eternal that brought us into being, and until science proves that which it has never yet proved—that something can be made out of nothing—this fact is indisputable. After the geological epochs were completed, then began the days of the mosaic period. Both science and the Bible affirm that after the creation of the earth, after change and vicissitude, everything became a barren waste. Moses describes it as a roaring flood, but what

Newton Journal

power could have lifted the vapors from the earth so that the day became distinguishable from the night? It was the power of the Eternal who said: "Let there be light; and there was light. And God saw the light that it was good: and God divided the light from the darkness. And God called the light day, and the darkness he called night: and the evening and the morning were the first day." This could have been accomplished by the Eternal in a day of twelve hours' duration. God could make a forest in one minute; He could make a forest as easily as he could an acorn.

Man was made from the dust of the soil, and God breathed life into his nostrils. All this history proves the glory and majesty of the Creator. Darwin is right when he says, "Man is the wonder and the glory of the universe." God said man shall have dominion over the earth, and this remains unalterable—man is still the monarch of every inch of earth he lives upon. In the creation of woman God caused a deep sleep to rest upon Adam, and, taking forth a rib from his side, He created the woman to be the companion of man. She could not have made herself; man could not have made her—of course he couldn't. Somebody must have made her, for she is here. The Eternal answers this question. Out of the bone and blood of Adam God builded the woman. He could have made her in another way, but in no other manner could have so well established the union between husband and wife. Man was a direct creation and there is nothing that will ever prove any connection as between man and brute. We challenge any scientific man to prove that the Bible is not the best solution offered for the origin and development of all things."



SCIENCE AND REVELATION IN HARMONY

❁ MOSAIC ACCOUNT ❁

OF THE

CREATION.

❁ AN ADDRESS ❁

—BY—

PROFESSOR L. T. TOWNSEND,

OF BOSTON UNIVERSITY,

In Second Congregational Church, West Newton,

Sunday Evening, Jan. 23d, at 7 o'clock,

BEFORE THE

NEWTON SUNDAY SCHOOL UNION.

EVERYBODY INVITED!

Sunday Evening, April 24. 1887.
 The 192nd Quarterly Meeting of the Newton
 Sunday School Union was held this evening
 in the Central Congregational Church Newtonville
 and opened by the Choir of the Church with the
 selection Oh! God be merciful.

Vice President Inman presided and called
 upon the Pastor of the Church Rev. Pleasant
 Hunter to read the Scripture selections
 and lead in prayer. After singing by
 the Choir and the Congregation the Secretary
 read the records of the last Meeting which
 were approved.

Rev. Pleasant Hunter introduced the following
 resolutions which were seconded and adopted.
 "1 Resolved: That the Newton Sunday School
 Union representing the officers and teachers of
 the Sunday Schools in the City of Newton,
 consider that the bill now pending before
 our State Legislature entitled "An Act to
 further regulate the observance of the Lord's
 Day, containing unwise provisions, and that
 the bill if passed will lessen respect for
 the day, and increase the desecration of
 it, and will prove detrimental to the
 highest interests of the people of the Common-
 wealth.

2 Resolved: That Messrs. Winfield S. Storum
 George S. Harwood and James F. C. Hyde be a

Committee of three to present its views to Senators and Representatives, and use such proper means as they may, to prevent the passage of the Act, or to have it so amended as to remove its dangerous and objectionable features, and make its provisions such as shall guard against further desecrations of the day."

The Question of the Evening

"How may the Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor or kindred organizations aid the Sunday School work" was then taken up and Mr. Wm. Shaw of Boston Treasurer of the Young People's Societies of Christian Endeavor Alliance was introduced to open it. It proved a very interesting address and he was followed by Messrs. Inman, Woodworth, Coe, Agry, Byers, Barbour, Barber & Richardson. The efficiency and usefulness of these organizations was best proved by the fact that so many young men members of it participated so effectively in the discussion. After prayer & benediction by the Pastor the meeting adjourned. The following are the reports of the schools which were read as the roll was called.

<u>Channing Newton.</u>	<u>Methodist Auburndale</u>
Whole Number in School 201	120
Average Attendance 180	83
Contributions during Quarter	48.55

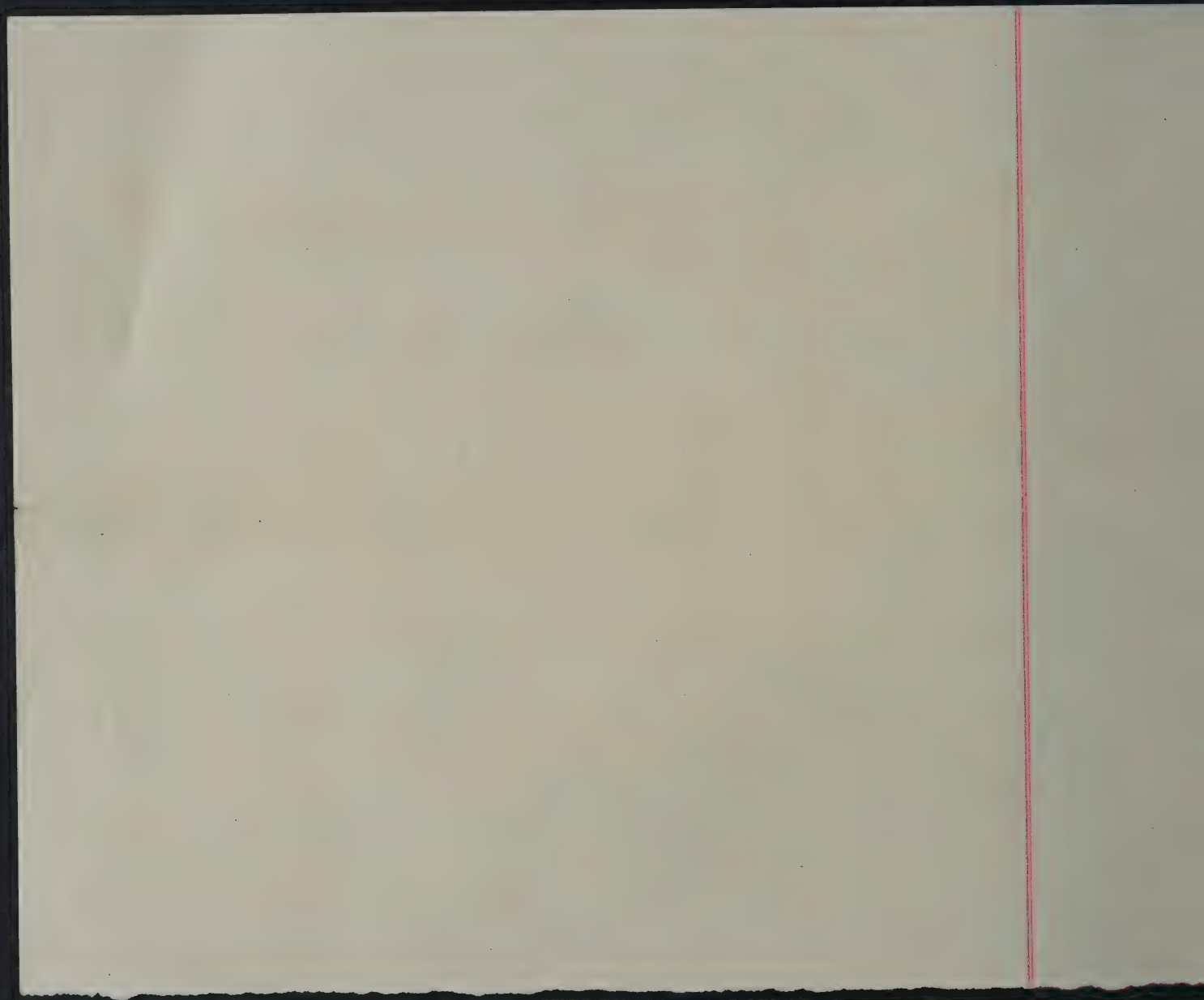
<u>Unitarian Newton Centre.</u>	<u>Methodist Newton.</u>
Whole Number in School 86	147
Average Attendance 46	76
Contributions in Quarter 10.87	24.07
Teachers Meetings	1

<u>Baptist West Newton.</u>	<u>Baptist Newton.</u>
Whole Number 215	322
Average Attendance 165	210
Contributions 115.71	88.60
Conversions 9	10
Teachers Meetings.	2

<u>Eliot Newton.</u>	<u>Congregational West Newton</u>
Whole Number 398	363
Average Attendance 266	247
Contributions 113.61	58.20
Teachers Meetings	1

<u>North Evangelical.</u>	<u>Methodist Newtonville.</u>
Whole Number 234	114
Average 157	89
Contributions 28.47	18.99
Conversions 3	
Teachers Meetings	1

1 Resolved: That the Newton Sunday School Union, representing the officers and teachers of the Sunday Schools in the City of Newton consider that the bill now pending before our State Legislature entitled "An Act to further regulate the observance of the Lord's Day, contains unwise provisions, and that the bill if passed will lessen respect for the day, and increase the dissipation of it, and will prove detrimental to the highest interests of the people of the Commonwealth.



Wm. G. Howard Esq. Geo. O. Howard
+ Hon. J. M. C. Hayes be a

2 Resolved: That the President of this
Society and

be a Committee to present its
views to Senators and Representatives, and
use such proper means as they may to
prevent the passage of the act, or to have
it so amended as to remove its danger-
ous and objectionable features, and make
its provisions such as shall guard against
further dissections of the day.

5-9

Henry N. Inman V.P.

D.F. Barber Director.

Dr. Weston

Man - Uman

Dear Mr. Partridge

The S. S. voted to

reconsider their withdrawal from

the Union for the present. so

that your arrangements for

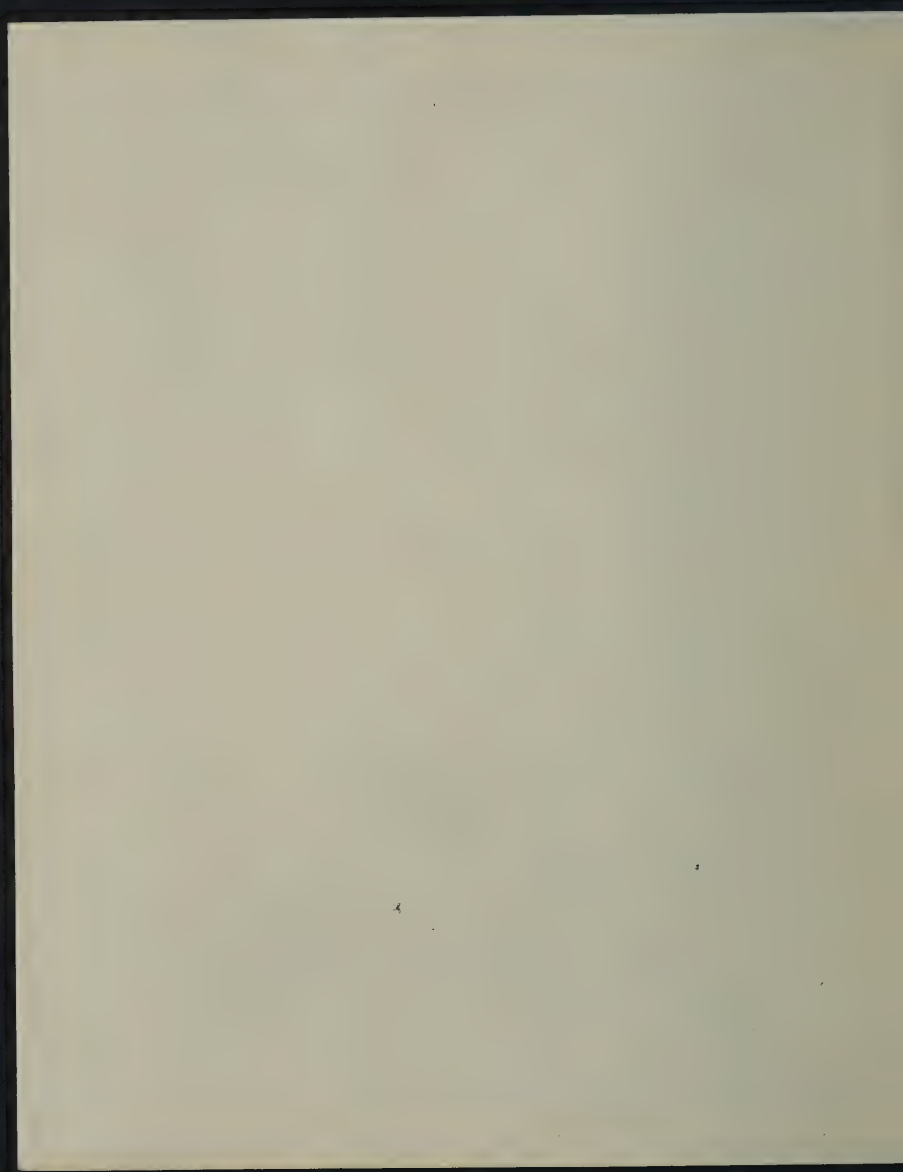
meeting here are confirmed

It is next Sat. Evening -

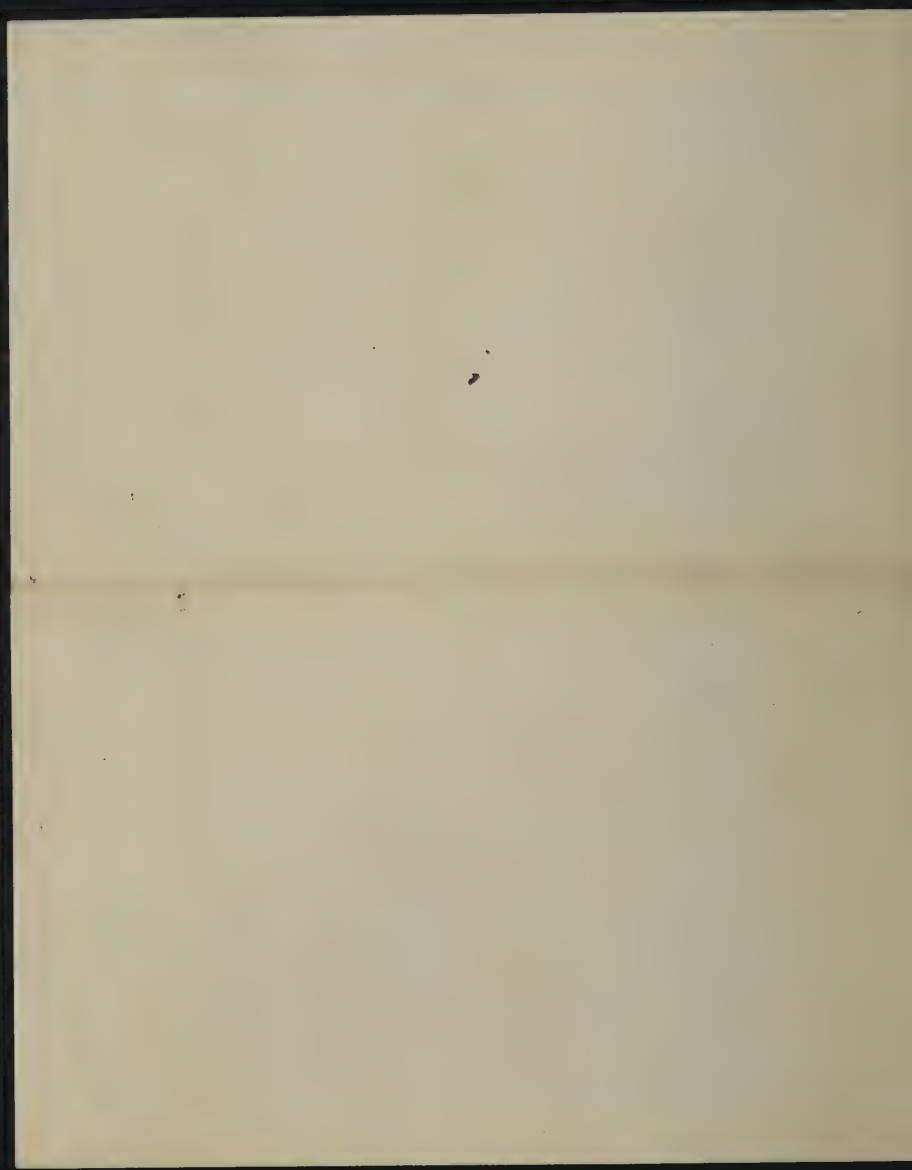
+ Prof. Townsend's name will

secure a large attendance

Yours L. J. Patrick







American Waltham Watch Co.

R. E. ROBBINS, Treasurer.

SUPERINTENDENT'S OFFICE,

Waltham, Mass., Jan 15th 1887

Mr W. H. Partridge

Secy Newton S. S. Union

Dear Sir

Our Pastor Mr
Patrick has sent me your letter
to him relating to the next meeting
of the Newton S. S. Union. And I write
now to say that I will bring the
matter before our teachers tomorrow
& have no doubt they will gladly
take such action as will insure
your holding the next meeting in our
church. I will write you again
at the earliest moment & more
at length

Yours Resp^{ly}

E. A. Marsh S. S. Supt
2^d Cong Ch West Newton

Quarterly Meetings of the Newton S. S. Union

Jan'y 16 th 1870.	Congl Church	Newtonville
April 17 70.	Eldest	" Newton
July 17 70.	Baptist	" "
Oct 16 70.	Meth	" Upper Falls.
Jan'y 15 71.	Congl	- W. Newton
April 10 th 71.	Bapt	" Newton
July 16 71.	Congl	" Amburudale
Oct 15 71.	"	- Newton Centre
Jan'y 21 st 72.	Meth	" Newtonville
Feb'y 25 72.	Congl	"
April 21 72.	Meth Ch	Newton
April 28 72.	Congl	- West Newton
July 21 st 72.	Bapt	- " "
Oct 20 72.	Congl	- Amburudale
Jan'y 17 th 73.	Eldest	- Newton
April 20 73.	Baptist	- Centre
July 20 73.	Meth	- Upper Falls
Oct 19 73.	South Evangelical	Newton
Jan'y 18 74.	Congl Church	W. Newton
April 19 74.	Meth	Newtonville

are adjourned to revising Constitution

July 19/74.	Cong Church	Aubundale
Oct 17/74.	"	N. Centre
Jan'y 17/75.	Eliot	Newton
April 18/75.	Meth	Newtonville
July 18/75.	Bapt	N. Centre
Oct 17/75.	Congl	W. Newton
Jan'y 16/76.	Eliot	Newton
April 16/76.	Baptist	W. Newton
July 16/76.	St Mary's	L. Falls
Oct 15/76.	Congl	Aubundale
Jan'y 21 st /77.	Bapt	Newton
April 15 th /77.	Anti Evangel	"
July 15 th /77.	Meth	W. Falls
Oct 21/77.	Congl	Newtonville
Jan'y 20/78.	"	N. Centre
April 21/78.	"	W. Newton
July 21/78.	"	N. Highland
Oct 21/78.	Eliot	Newton
Jan'y 19/79.	Meth	Newtonville
April 20/79.	Meth	W. Falls
July 20/79.	St Mary's	L. Falls
Oct 19/79.	Baptist	N. Centre

Jan 18 th 80	Channing Church	Newton
April 18/80	Congl	Aubundale
July 18/80	"	Newtonville
Oct 17/80	"	N. Centre
Jan 16 th 81	Eliot	Newton
April 24/81	Congl	W. Newton
July 17/81	Bapt	Upper Falls
Oct 123/81	Meth	Newtonville
Jan 15/82	Bapt	Newton Centre
April 16/82	Congl	North Village
July 16/82	Sk Marys	Lower Falls
Oct 15/82	Congl	West Newton
Jan 21/83	Channing	Newton
April 83	Meth	Aubundale
July 15/83	Congl	N. Highland
Oct 21/83	Universalist	Newtonville
Jan 20/84	Meth	N. Centre
April 20/84	Bapt	West Newton
July 20/84	Meth	Upper Falls
Oct 19/84	North Cong	Newtonville
Jan 18 th 85	Eliot	Newton
April 19 th 85	Meth	Newtonville

V
Sunday Evening April 24, 1917.

The 192 Quarterly Session of the Newton
Sunday School Union was held this evening
in the Central Congregational Church. Newtonville
and opened by ^{the choir with the} selection "Oh! Lord be Merciful"
with Vice Pres. H. A. Inman presiding and called
upon the Pastor Rev. Pleasant Hunter to read
scripture selections and lead in prayer.
~~of~~ ^{Sing} ~~selection~~ ^{by choir} ~~congregation~~ ^{joined in}
~~the~~ The Secretary read his report of the
last meeting which was approved.

Contributions taken up.
Rev. Pleasant Hunter introduced the following resolution
which was seconded by Bro. L. B. Barber. Address by Bro.
Barber & Beane. The resolution was adopted and
a committee of three Rev. W. W. Hunter & Wm. J. Boyer &
L. B. Barber to nominate such a committee.

W. S. B. Secretary

L. B. Barber

W. J. Boyer

Bros. Shaver

" Inman

" Woodward

" Coe

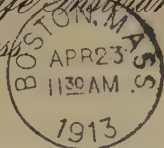
" Agnew

" Boyer

Barber

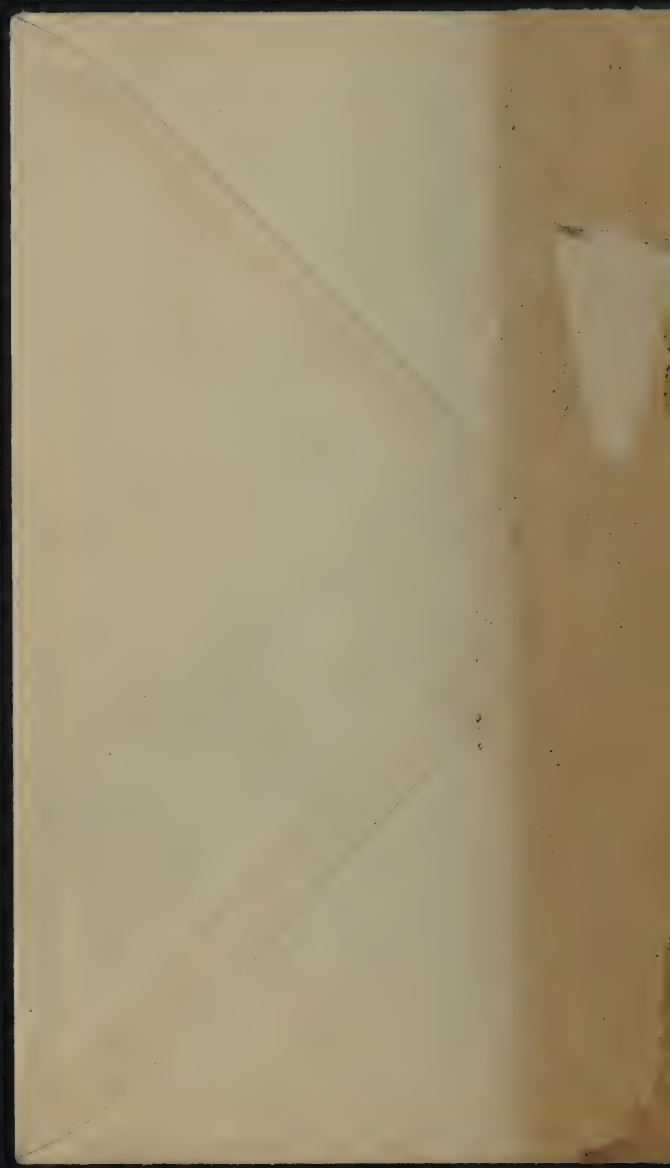
Richards

Massachusetts Hospital Life Insurance Co
Boston, Mass.



Charles S. Ensign Sr. Eng.
Dilling's Park.
Newton.
Mass.

Wm. H. Putnam
April 14, 1913



50 State Street. Boston,
April 17. 1913.

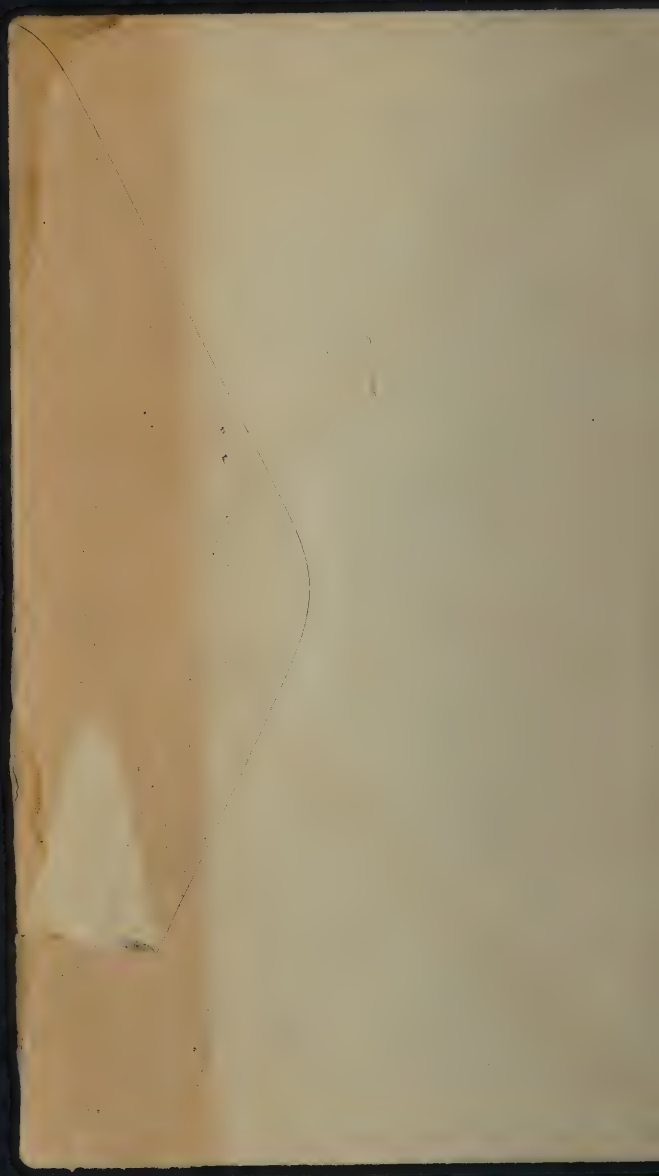
Charles S. Ensign Esq.
My dear Sir

You are interested in the Newton
Historical Society and have received through
Brother Plakemore Sr., to whom I loaned them,
the Newton Medical Association's Records.

I have in my possession the Records from
origin of the Newton Sunday School Union
with its historical names and story.
I am willing to consign them to the care
of the Historical Society where they ought
to be, for those who save records.

If you so desire and are authorized
I will gladly turn them over to the custody
of that organization.

Yours respectfully
Wm. R. Partridge.



Eliot Congregational Church Newton.

Baptist	"	"
Methodist	"	"
Channing	"	"
North Evangelical	"	Nonantum
Universalist	"	Newtonville
Central Congregational	"	"
Methodist	"	"
Baptist	"	West Newton
Congregational	"	"
Congregational	"	Auburndale
Methodist	"	"
Methodist	"	Newton Lower Falls
Methodist	"	" Upper Falls
Baptist	"	" " "
Unitarian	"	Newton Centre.
Myrtle	"	West Newton.

Newton Sunday School Union.

QUARTERLY REPORT

— OF —

..... Sunday School,

For Quarter ending.....188

1. Whole number connected with the School,
2. Average attendance,
3. Contributions during the Quarter,
4. Teachers' Meetings: How many during the Quarter?
5. Conversions: How many during the Quarter?

Names of Delegates.

..... Superintendent.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

Place of Meeting:.....

Time:.....

Subject:.....

Essayist:.....

..... Sec'y.

Newton,.....188

NOTE.— Reports to be made up, including the last Sabbath in December, March, June and September, of each year. Each School is entitled to three delegates besides the Superintendent.

<u>Methodist Upper Falls.</u>		<u>Universalist Newtonville</u>	
Whole Number	145		124
Average	101		96 per cent
Contributions	31.70		29.26
Teachers Meetings	1		Every Friday Evenj.

<u>Central Congregational Newtonville</u>		<u>Myrtle West Newton</u>	
Whole Number	254		56
Average	177		30
Contributions	82.63		2. =
Conversions	4 & Much Interest		3
Teachers Meetings			2

<u>Congregational Auburndale</u>	
Whole Number	262
Average	181
Contributions	Class boxes.
Conversions	5 united with the Church Mch. 6.

William H. Fardige
Secretary.

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CHICAGO

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ORDER NEW BOOK

From Number inside front cover.

HOOPER, LEWIS & CO.,

8 Milk Street, BOSTON.

Newton Sunday School Union.

Rev Wolcott Galkins of the Eliot Church, Newton, will deliver the address before the Union at the Methodist Church Newtonville Sunday evening Oct 23rd 1881, at 6.30 O'clock.
Subject: "The Bible, and How to Use it".
To be followed by the usual discussion.

It has been decided to postpone the reading of the "Prize Essays" until the January meeting of the Union, the responses not having been as general as was expected, owing largely to the shortness of time given for writing. The time for handing in Essays is therefore extended to December 20th 1881. We wish Pastors as well as all interested would send in Essays, as our desire is to secure the largest number that will be valuable helps in Sunday School Work.

We hope to publish in pamphlet form for free distribution the five selected Essays.

Geo. C. Dunne
Secretary
Newton Oct 19th 1881.

Edward B. Carle
President

[The page contains extremely faint, illegible handwriting, likely bleed-through from the reverse side.]

Newton Sunday School Union.

QUARTERLY REPORT

— OF —

..... Sunday School,

For Quarter ending.....188

1. Whole number connected with the School,
2. Average attendance,
3. Contributions during the Quarter,
4. Teachers' Meetings: How many during the Quarter?
5. Conversions: How many during the Quarter?

Names of Delegates.

.....
.....
.....

..... Superintendent.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

Place of Meeting:.....

Time:.....

Subject:.....

Essayist:.....

..... Sec'y.

Newton,.....188

NOTE.— Reports to be made up, including the last Sabbath in December, March, June and September, of each year. Each School is entitled to three delegates besides the Superintendent.

Newton Sunday School Union.

QUARTERLY REPORT

— OF —

..... Sunday School,

For Quarter ending *188*

1. Whole number connected with the School,
2. Average attendance,
3. Contributions during the Quarter,
4. Teachers' Meetings: How many during the Quarter?
5. Conversions: How many during the Quarter?

Names of Delegates.

..... *Superintendent.*

QUARTERLY MEETING.

Place of Meeting:

Time:

Subject:

Essayist:

..... *Sec'y.*

Newton, *188*

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Newton Sunday School Union.

QUARTERLY REPORT

— OF —

..... Sunday School,

For Quarter ending.....188

1. Whole number connected with the School,
2. Average attendance,
3. Contributions during the Quarter,
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5. Conversions: How many during the Quarter?

Names of Delegates.

.....
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..... Superintendent.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

Place of Meeting:.....

Time:.....

Subject:.....

Essayist:.....

..... Sec'y.

Newton,.....188

NOTE.— Reports to be made up, including the last Sabbath in December, March, June and September, of each year. Each School is entitled to three delegates besides the Superintendent.

Newton Sunday School Union.

QUARTERLY REPORT

— OF —

..... Sunday School,

For Quarter ending.....188

1. Whole number connected with the School,
2. Average attendance,
3. Contributions during the Quarter,
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5. Conversions: How many during the Quarter?

Names of Delegates.

..... Superintendent.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

Place of Meeting:.....

Time:.....

Subject:.....

Essayist:.....

..... Sec'y.

Newton,.....188

NOTE.— Reports to be made up, including the last Sabbath in December, March, June and September, of each year. Each School is entitled to three delegates besides the Superintendent.

THE NEWTON SABBATH SCHOOL UNION

The Newton Sabbath School Union was organized in 1838 and for nearly forty nine years was an active and vital force in the religious life of the town. At the beginning there were six schools in its membership, which rose to twenty three schools at the end. The first Sabbath School in Newton was the one formed in 1816 at the First Church in Newton Centre. Two women members of the church started classes for religious instruction of the children which for a few years was given only in the summer months. Two years later both the first Baptist Church in Newton Centre and the Episcopal Church in Lower Falls organized similar schools. The other three churches in Newton began their schools within the next two decades.

In the fall of 1838 a number of persons met in the vestry of the West Parish, the Second Church, in West Newton, to consider what could be done to advance the Sabbath School cause. Enthusiastic support was given to it and a second meeting was held at the East Parish attended by representatives of the six religious societies of the town. After earnest deliberation as to the expediency of forming themselves into a Union the members voted to organize the Newton Sabbath School Union whose object, as stated in the constitution adopted December 16, 1838, "shall be to promote the interests and increase the usefulness of Sabbath schools in this town." The membership was made up of the teachers, officers, and other friends of Sabbath schools in the town, eighty one of whom signed the constitution, of whom at least seventeen were women. William Jackson was elected president, Wiley C. Eaton, vice-president, Sanford Leach, secretary, and Elizabeth Woodward, treasurer, who together with one director from each school and the ministers of the churches composed a Board of Managers.

The Eliot Sabbath School was admitted as the seventh member in 1845 and the Congregational Sabbath School in 1850. For many years schools were admitted as they were organized. The Minister of the Congregational Church was writing

of the Shering Church school, that it was customary for a sabbath school to be started before the church was organized.

One of the names which the Union used to promote its parcels was as primary education and well-being. The report of the annual meeting in 1884 stated that the schools had 27 teachers, 23 students and 125 volumes in the libraries. Beginning in the 1890s the record of every meeting to the last one in 1887 contained a statistical report from each school. Beginning (and the order of schools meeting) were generally very high) which gave some or all of the following data: - the number of scholars enrolled, number of classes, number of teachers and of officers, the average attendance of each, number of volumes in the library, whether teachers' meetings and monthly concerts of the amount of contributions, ~~the number of scholars~~, ~~the number of non-prayer are held,~~ ~~the number of scholars~~, the number of scholars belonging to the church, the number of conversions, and general comment on the well being and amount of religious interest in the school.

At the annual meeting in Oct. 1889 the secretary summarized the reports from the churches as follows: number of scholars 218, average attendance 114, volumes in the libraries 6035, contributions \$343.00, number of members connected with the church 141, number of new members, 22, number of conversions 7.

For the annual meeting in January 1886 the secretary summarized the reports from the churches as follows: number of scholars 218, average attendance 114, the number of teachers' meetings in the previous year 96, the contributions \$1961.19, and the number of conversions 12. The Union itself operated on a very limited budget as shown by the treasurer's report of receipts \$1.70 from collections and contributions, and expenses of \$1.50.

The conference called for four meetings a year with the annual meeting coming on July 4 at which the superintendent of each school was to make a report for his school under his name. They were to be held at the residence of the superintendent of the Union and they were to be held at the residence of the superintendent.

at each meeting a subject, announced at the previous meeting, was given out for discussion by anyone who wished to speak on it. Regrettably the minutes do not record the substance of any of the remarks but they must have been lively and profitable as there is often the comment that they were able or spirited or aroused much interest. A good many of the subjects, in only slightly different language, recur at intervals during the first ten years. They deal with a few main topics, - the cause, methods of teaching, the relation of the School to the Church, the minister, the teacher, and conversions. At one of the earliest meetings the subject was in the form of a resolution which expresses their enthusiastic spirit, and that the past success present condition and prospects of the S. S. cause call for fervent gratitude to God renewed zeal and persevering effort on the part of the friends of the cause."

In discussing the objects which the Sabbath School was designed to accomplish it was devoted to its role as a preservative of our civil freedom and its influence on the destinies of our civil and religious institutions. The office of the teacher was a subject of much concern and it was recognized that it is not a trivial office, and can be sustained only by special qualifications, constant prayer, constant & cheerful effort & self-denial."

The portion "How can the deficiency of competent S. S. Teachers be supplied" is one for which the discussion is given. It was treated under two heads, intellectual, and moral qualifications. It was suggested the first could be remedied by holding the office for life and by having a weekly Bible class and the second by having weekly or semi-weekly prayer meetings, by praying in secret, by frequent perusal of Todd's S. S. Teacher, and by regular attendance at meetings of the S. S. The need for encouraging teachers was recognized but it is questionable if this was given by the resolution "that the brevity of the S. S. life be a strong motive to diligence & faithfulness on the part of the S. S. teacher."

Methods of teaching and of conducting the school were matters of frequent concern. Such questions as these were taken up:- the use of the catechism, the use of maps, blackboards and "other sensible objects", the importance of directness in instruction, whether teachers should anticipate objections from their pupils, what improvements can be made in instruction. The subject, "The comparative merits of the old system of expecting scholars to commit to memory large portions of scripture & hymns, and recite them word for word;- and the modern system of committing nothing, but only giving the sense of the sacred writers", caused a lively debate that continued for three meetings. Point to this discussion is given by the earlier records of one school that in one year a boy had committed to memory 3010 verses and the whole school had committed 13,230 verses and 354 hymns. The question was considered important enough to be referred to the several schools for consideration but no mention is made of any decisions taken. Another subject was stimulating enough to be debated for four meetings, "Would not an occasional change in the connection of Teachers & Scholars prove more interesting & profitable to both than a permanent connection?", and it would be interesting to know what opinions were expressed. There were times when the subjects reflected discouragement,—"Why do we see so little of the fruits of our labors in the Sabbath School?" and on other occasions they discussed how to increase attendance and interest in the Sabbath School.

They were concerned also by the relation of the Church to the Schools, and deemed that the importance of the Sabbath Schools entitle them to more sympathy and effort on the part of the Church. They thought church members and parents had a duty in promoting the prosperity of the Sabbath School.

The conversion of their scholars was the subject dearest to the members of the Union. They considered the Sabbath School as an important agent in the world's conversion, they sought the best means of securing a revival of religion, they pondered the duty of teachers to make direct and immediate efforts for the conversion of their scholars. At the meetings the superintendent of each school reported the number of conversions and there was rejoicing when evidence was given of a revival of religious

interest. Reporting one meeting the secretary wrote:- "While many have been turned from darkness to light, and are now rejoicing in the hope that their peace is made with God, it is still manifest that his spirit is striving with others, who are inquiring the way to be saved;" and at another time "The reports made of the various S. S. at this time were encouraging. Though but few conversions have taken place, yet all the S.S. were reported to be in a prosperous Condition; And all the Superintendents expressed the same desire, that the Influences of the Holy Spirit might descend and bless their efforts in the Conversion of those under their charge."

The cause of missions was whole-heartedly promoted by the members of the Union. They discussed how the children might be interested in giving to benevolences and how the Sabbath Schools could best cooperate with the Church in the missionary effort. In 1849 they took a more direct interest and voted to support a colporteur and to raise \$150 for the purpose, the amount to be contributed proportionally by the schools. In association with the American Tract Society they helped to send colporteurs to West Virginia and to several states of the then west during a period of a few years. Near the close of the Civil War money was raised to send 190 bibles to a colored mission school in Virginia. In 1872 the Union responded to a plea on behalf of a children's mission in Rome by raising \$600 for a tent to be used for its religious services.

Though religious instruction was the purpose of the Sabbath Schools the Union did not forget that the children liked to have a good time. On the first anniversary July 4, 1839 it held a big celebration in a grove at Upper Falls. The morning exercises provided food for the mind, four addresses, one introductory, one to the scholars, one to the teachers, and one to the parents. At noon a collation was served and in spite of a brief shower which caused "very trifling inconvenience" everyone agreed it was a highly gratifying occasion. A year later a second anniversary celebration was held in a grove at Newton Centre. Only two addresses were given. The procession to the collation was composed of 800 or 900 members of the Sabbath schools in Newton and 500 or 600 from the neighboring towns and it was estimated that two to three thousand people were in the assembly. "There was a very general expression of satisfaction and

and delight on the part of guests from out of town as well as from those who were more immediately interested in the celebration." Two or three other celebrations were held but they did not measure up to the success of the second one and the custom was dropped.

The twenty-fifth anniversary was marked in October 1863 by a special observance in Eliot Church. Marshall S. Nice, of the Upper Falls Methodist Church, one of the founders and most active supporters, gave the historical address telling about the origin and progress of the Union. A choir of seventy-five children from the different schools sang several anthems, and the audience sang an original hymn written for the occasion by Rev. Samuel F. Smith. It was reported that over 1500 persons attended but how they got into Eliot Church which seated 1000 is not stated.

In 1870 a new surge of interest arose in the Union to make it more active and useful to the community. An Institute was held early in the winter, conducted by an outside minister who gave talks and led discussions on Sunday School problems. A large number attended and "it was a complete success." That success led to a second Institute late in the fall lasting for two days which was "interesting and instructive."

The practice of having a subject for each meeting was revived, which was introduced by a ten minute essay by some member, followed by discussion. These essays and discussions were the main feature of the Union meetings throughout the rest of its existence. A considerable majority of them dealt with the teacher and his responsibility and with methods of teaching, often giving specific suggestions about preparation and presentation of the lesson. By 1874 most of the schools had introduced the uniform lessons and several sessions were concerned with them. The importance of the Sunday School in encouraging conversions, both at home and in the world, continued to be emphasized. The subject, "Should not the youngest children be taught to make a daily closet confession?" brought forth much discussion and favorable opinion.

That these meetings were ^{not} of interest only to the members of the Union is shown in the willingness of the Newton newspapers to print a full report of them, sometimes as much as a full column. The chief points of the essay were given and

the remarks of those who discussed it were reported in detail. The meetings were held Sunday evenings in the churches of the various villages and combined a devotional service with the regular meeting of the Union, and music by the church choir was a special feature. The church would be filled by an attentive audience which bore witness to the fervent interest of the citizens of Newton in the Sunday Schools and to their desire to increase the influence of the Schools for the good of the youth of the community.

In June 1880 the Union joined in the world wide celebration of the founding of the first Sunday School by Robert Raikes in England. It was considered to be also the 200th anniversary of the first Sunday School in America begun in Plymouth in 1680. Elaborate preparations were made for the exercises which were held in Eliot Hall. A chorus of 350 children sang anthems and a special hymn was written for the occasion by Rev. Samuel F. Smith. A demonstration was given of what is taught in the Sunday Schools and three addresses extolled the work they were doing.

In the fall of 1881 Edward B. Earle, the president, thought that something should be done to increase the interest of the Schools in the Union. He proposed an essay contest and offered a gold medal as a prize for the best essay on Sunday School interests. The five essays judged to be the best of those submitted were read at a winter meeting, the identity of the authors being unknown. Of these a board of judges selected "The Sunday School and the Church" to receive the award and gave honorable mention to "The Relation of the Sunday School to the Community". When the names of the authors were opened it was found that both essays had been written by David E. Snow. In accepting the medal he said he had handled many gold coins but valued none of them as highly as it.

The essay contest did not produce any revival of interest in the Union nor was it repeated. Some members thought it was getting into a rut and that some changes should be made in its procedures but there does not seem to have been enough incentive to start a new program. At one meeting Rev. Wolcott Calkins gave a talk on how to increase the usefulness of the Union. He made a number of suggestions, concluding with the thought that if men's hearts were kindled with the desire to bring home God's

lost children the ways and means of doing so would take care of themselves. But times had changed. There was no longer the need which had existed fifty years before to promote an interest in Sunday Schools,--the Union had been most successful in its purpose and the churches were willing and able to sustain flourishing schools by themselves.

A few schools stopped sending statistics or having any part in the meetings. One school sent in letters of resignation from the Union stating that it ^{the resignation} "had nothing to do with 'Evangelical tests' but with the condition of the Union which they report to be moribund", our delegates come back "with increasing dissatisfaction with the meetings as not so profitable as those they have at home." A nother letter said it "was not accomplishing much save the gathering of quarterly statistics, and that did not seem to me to be worth the time & labor involved, ---- very few of the younger portion of the schools were present." No fault was found with the officers but if the Union was to continue it should live to more purpose. The annual meeting was held in January 1887 and officers for the year elected but the statistics were omitted to give the time for the speaker. Professor Townsend gave an hour's address on "The Mosaic Account of Creation" which the capacity audience found "intensely interesting and powerful." The April meeting of the Union was its last, perhaps because the elected president said he could not serve and no one else was ready to take his place.

For half a century the Newton Sabbath School Union was a vigorous force in promoting the work of the Sunday Schools and in helping the churches in the larger sphere of advancing Christ's kingdom. It combined the efforts and interests of twenty-three schools from six denominations, Congregational, Baptist, Methodist, Episcopalian, Unitarian and Universalist, in a well sustained cooperative endeavor that was remarkable in the denominational feeling of the nineteenth century. When the Reverend Henry Mackay was called to another city he paid a fitting tribute to it in his letter of resignation as director:- "The Union is, I believe, unique. with so many and variant theological opinions, the good-will and fellowship, the harmony which characterize the workers are, I must say, as unique as lovely. ---- Let me say to the members of the Union who are so liberal, so united and harmonious in their efforts for the promotion

of godliness among the young, that I part from them with sincere regret." Reverend Galkins, in the talk previously mentioned, expressed a similar opinion, that he knew of no society precisely like it. His description of the spirit which animated it: "The catholic spirit of the union commands admiration. It does not assume to dictate to any Sunday School what it shall teach. It simply wants the workers to come together and give an account of what they are doing, letting each one go on with the work which seems to him fittest" - is an apt explanation and justification of its long life of service in the community.

NEWTON SABBATH SCHOOL UNION

SUBJECTS AND RESOLUTIONS DISCUSSED AT THE UNION MEETINGS

- 1839 Resolved that the past success present condition and prospects of the S.S. cause call for fervent gratitude to God renewed zeal and persevering effort on the part of the friends of the cause.
- T Resolved that the office of the S.S. Teacher is one of high responsibility, and can be sustained only by special qualifications, deep piety fervent & frequent prayer, constant & cheerful effort & self denial.
- Ch Resolved that the importance of Sab. Schools entitles them to more sympathy & effort on the part of the Church.
- 1840 T Resolved that the S.S. teacher has in his class a charge, the importance of which will be fully understood only in eternity.
- T Resolved that the brevity & uncertainty of human life should be a strong motive to diligent & faithfulness on the part of the S.S. Teacher.
- T What constitutes a faithful S. S. Teacher?
- C The agency of Sabbath School Instruction in the world's conversion.
- The claims of S. S. Libraries upon the attention and concern of Parents and Teachers.
- To what extent should S. S. instruction be allowed to supersede domestic religious instruction?
- 1841 What are the peculiar trials of S. S. Teaching?
- C What means are requisite to secure a revival of religion in a Sabbath School?
- M The importance of directness in S. S. Instruction.
- T What are the intellectual & moral qualifications requisite of a S.S. Teacher?
- Ch What is the duty of the Church in reference to the S. School?
- 1842 P What are the objects wh. the S. School is designed to secure?
- M What improvements have been made in S. S. instruction since the origin of S. Schools & what improvements may still be made?
- P The influence of the S. School as a preservative of our civil freedom?
- B The importance of interesting children in benevolent operations.
- D What means can be employed to prevent our youth from leaving the S. School at too early an age?
- D What means can be used to inspire our youth with a greater reverence for the Sabbath?
- 1843 T What are the sources of encouragement to the faithful S.S. Teacher?
- Ch How can Parents promote the prosperity of S. Schools?
- T How can the deficiency of (competent) S.S. teachers be supplied? *common*
- P What are the principal objects designed to be accomplished by the N.S.S. Union?
- 1844 B What has been the influence of S. Schools on the Cause of Missions?
- Ch What is the relation of Church members to S. Schools, and what their consequent duties?
- M What are the best means of creating & sustaining an interest in S. Schools?
- C What means are requisite to secure a Revival of Religion in Sabbath Schools?
- Ch What is the duty of the Christian Church, and Christian Parents especially, when they see no visible signs that the labors of the Sab. School are blessed?

Subjects

- 1845 *B* The importance of interesting children in benevolent operations.
C Is it the duty of teachers to make direct & immediate efforts for the conversion of their Scholars?
M What method of instruction in S. Schools secures the best results?
D Why do we see so little of the fruits of our labors in the Sabbath School at the present time?
M What measures can be adopted to render our Sabbath Schools more efficient?
T What constitutes a faithful Sab. School Teacher?
P What are the objects which the Sabbath School is designed to secure?
T What are some of the prominent qualifications of the Sabbath School Teacher?
P How will Sabbath School instruction influence the destinies of our Institutions civil and religious. h
- 1846 What measures can be adopted, to interest & secure the greatest attendance of the young in our Sabbath Schools.
 What are the advantages of a good Sabbath School Library?
M To what extent can Maps, black boards & other sensible objects, be profitably used in Sabbath Schools? ?
 What the influence of the S.S. in promoting the observance of the Sabbath?
D What course can be adopted to increase the attendance and interest in our S.S?
 → *M* The comparative merits of the old system of expecting scholars to commit to memory large portions of Scripture & hymns, & to recite them word for word, - and the modern system of committing nothing, but only, giving the sense of the sacred writers? discussed at three meetings
B How can the Sabbath School best cooperate with the Church, in promoting the interests of the missionary cause?
- 1847 *M* The use of the catechism
M Should Sabbath School teachers anticipate objections in imparting instructions to their pupils?
M Would not an occasional change in the connection of Teachers & Scholars prove more interesting & profitable, to both than a permanent connection? cont.4
D What can be done to increase the interests of the Sabbath School cause? cont

TEN MINUTE ESSAYS READ AT QUARTERLY MEETINGS, 1870 -

- 1870 A Uniform Lesson
Sabbath School Literature
T The Duties of the S.S. Teacher to his class both in and out of the School.
- 1871 The Duties of the Superintendent
Cb The Duties of Parents to the Sabbath School
B Should the Missionary Spirit Be Awakened?
- 1872 Cb Ought the Sabbath School to have a prominent place in the services of the Sabbath
Cb The Sabbath School should be a part of the work of the Church
C Is there special encouragement to labor and pray for the conversion of
youngchildren, and why?
M The Primary Department
C The importance of early conversion
- 1873 C The object of the Sabbath School is the conversion of the world.
T A Sabbath School teacher's ambition.
M Successful Sabbath School Teaching.
- 1874 M The Bible Class,- The Bible, The Teacher, The Class.
M Bible Study
Address on the early days of the Sabbath School, its relation to the pulpit.
M How To Teach.
- 1875 M A subject from the Uniform Lessons, Memorial Stones, was discussed
M " " " " " " Gideon's Army, was discussed
M Best Methods of increasing membership in our Schools.
T A vital living piety is indispensable to successful Sunday School teaching.
- 1876 T The responsibility of the teacher, how far does it go?
T Teachers' meetings.
Relations of the Public School to the Sunday School.
Music in the Sunday School.
- 1877 T A truer and richer Christian experience the present and pressing need of
Sabbath School Teachers.
C Personal Religion, the object of Sunday School Instruction.
T Duties of the Sunday School teacher to Converts.
- 1878 Cb How may parents help the Sunday School.
M Best methods of Sunday School teaching.
T Proper preparation for teaching in the Sunday School.
An essay on temperance by a young lady of the school.
- 1879 M Principles of Teaching.
Amemorial to the late Marshall S. Rice.
C Should not younger children make daily confession.
Distinction between Secular and Religious Schools.
- 1880 M Illustrations in Sunday School teaching.
Cb The encouragement of the Sunday School.
M Primary Department work.
M Duties of Superintendents and Teachers to their Scholars.

- 1881 The relation of the Sunday School to the Christian Family.
Young Men of our Cities, their Temptations and Safeguards.
Value of Early Training.
The Bible and How to Use It.
- 1882 P What is Success in Sunday School work.
Thomas in the Sunday School.
P The Providential Place of the Sunday School in America.
- 1883 What are our children reading?
M The subject, "Mistakes in Sunday School Teaching" discussed.
M The subject "Mistakes in Sunday School Management" discussed.
- 1884 P The subject, "How can we increase the Usefulness of the Newton S. S. Union"
opened by Rev. Calkins.
P The Aim, Scope, and Responsibilities of the Sunday School work.
Is it expedient to close the Sunday School during the Summer Vacation Season?
How can we reach the spiritual nature of the children?
- 1885 T The Teachers' work in the Sunday School.
Paul at Puteoli and Rome.
M Aim and Method in moral education.
- 1886 M How to teach the Bible to form character.
Dynamics of Sunday School teaching.
Temperance
- 1887 The Mosaic account of the Creation.
The value of the Y.P.S.C.E.

- 1845 Mar. 16 Should teachers make immediate efforts for conversion of scholars?
 Apr. 10 Voted to hold meetings monthly all year.
 Why do we see so little fruits of our labors at the present time?
 Not expedient to hold public meeting
 July 20 Meetin is held at Eliot Church.
 Nov. 16 Eliot S.S. asks to be admitted to Union and accepted.
- 1846 Apr. 19 The influence of S.S. upon the perpetuity of our rel. institutions.
 June 14 The advantages of a good S.S. library
 Voted that the Supt of the S.S. should report on its interests etc,
 Can maps, blackboards, etc profitably be used?
 Nov. 16 The comparative merits of the old system of expecting scholars to commit to memory large portions of scripture & hymns & to recite them word for word, And the modern system of committing nothing but only giving the sense of the sacred writers. was adopted Dec. 20
- 1847 May 16 The use of the catechism
 July 19 Should S.S. teachers anticipate objections in imparting instruction?
 Aug.- Nov. Would not an occasional change in the connection of teachers & Scholars prove more interesting & profitable to both than a permanent connection?
- 1848 Mar. 19 Voted that meetings of Union be quarterly, that each supt. with a delegation of 3 members from his school attend and make reports.
 June 1 Five supt. gave reports which "were sufficient to convince all, who listened to them, that God in much mercy has visited our Sabbath Schools, and crowned with success the efforts which have been made and the means used by those engaged in this good cause."
 "one of the best of all institutions, the Sabbath School"
 Sept. 17 Four schools reported, - though number of conversion is not numerous, it is evident there is no lack of interest on the part of teachers and scholars.
 Dec. 17 No conversions reported but no discouragement. Some expressed desire for revival of religion in their own hearts, others were desirous for a greater missionary spirit to be kindled in the young, both to send money and to save books for the destitute schools in the West.
- 1849 Mar. 18 After discussion it was voted that the Union should sustain a colporteur through the American Tract Society, and that each S.S. should raise its proportional part of \$150 for him.
 June 17 A report was read from the colporteur in West Virginia which the Union is supporting. Mr. Cook M.E. agent of Tract Soc. spoke.
 Dec. 16 Report read from the col. who is now laboring in Ohio
 Dec. 16 The col. has been changed, Nathan Park is new man in Michigan
 Mar. 17 All the S.S. vote to continue his support, \$150. yearly.
 Sept. 15 The S.S. are prosperous, though there have been few conversions, and all the Supt. are hopeful that the Holy Spirit will bless them
- 1850 Dec. 15 The S.S. formed at Auburndale is invited to join the Union.
 1851 Mar. 16 A report from the col. in Illinois, Mr. Muzzy. It was urged that teachers should take their scholars home for a more familiar inter-

1852 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1853 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1854 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1855 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1856 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1857 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1858 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1859 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1860 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1861 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1862 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1863 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1864 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1865 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1866 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1867 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1868 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1869 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1870 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1871 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1872 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
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 1879 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1880 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1881 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1882 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1883 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1884 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1885 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1886 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1887 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1888 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1889 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1890 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1891 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1892 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1893 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1894 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1895 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1896 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1897 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1898 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1899 Oct. 19 The Colporteur was at the States at London.
 1900 Jan. 17 The Colporteur was at the States at London.

It takes more than good intentions or expert knowledge or even money to bring to completion such a supreme undertaking as the building of a church. There must also be the conviction that the undertaking is worth the work and sacrifice it calls for. It was from the inspiration and spiritual leadership of Reverend Ray A. Eusden , minister of Eliot Church, that its people gained this conviction and the enthusiasm and determination to build a new and greater church.

- Bl II*
- 1852 July 15 S. S. reports tell of some conversions which call forth rejoicing. Voted that the clergymen preach on the interests of the S.S and call for increase in numbers.
- Oct. 17 The Baptist Church, U.F. which had not been heard from for 3 meetings reported that though it had well nigh run down, it was reviving, with an increase of teachers and scholars, with 70 Or more books added to the library and \$10.50 raised for the Union. The treasurer was instructed to turn over all money so that the debts of the Union to July could be paid.
- 1853 Apr. 17 The newly organized Baptist S.S. in Newtonville was elected as the
- Oct. 16. An address by Rev. Lantry of West Roxbury occupied the time.
- 1854 Jan. 15 Reports were interesting, showing that schools were prospering, ready to listen, treasure the truths of the gospel. 9 conversions. Average attendance near 700, 100 teachers.
- Apr. 16 Statistical reports given. Union funds to be given to missionary work in Athens, Ohio.
- Oct. 22 Reports do not differ much from previous ones but supt. express a stronger desire that God would grant them his spirit. It is one thing to feel great interest in the S.S. and another thing to go to their homes for religious conversation and to save souls.
- 1855
- 1856 Jan. 20 Statistical reports, bad weather
- Episcopal S.S. of Newton invited to membership.
- 1857 Apr. 19 Prayer is the best means of awakening interest, - Scholars must work for success as well as teachers.
- Discussion as to best time of holding S.S. Most thought the time between morning and afternoon sessions.
- A summary of statistics for the S.S.
- July 19 Full reports, discussion of various matters, those who don't attend.
- Oct. 18. Seat in S.S. is of more honor than one in U.S. Senate.
- Quarterly report.
- 1858 Jan. 17 List of member schools. Resolution on duty of teachers.
- 1859 Oct. 16 Episcopal Church S.S. of Auburndale voted in.
- 1860 Jan. 15 Amendments to the constitution. The office of secretary and treasurer to be held by one and the same person.
- The annual meeting to be the third Sunday in January, the secretary to make annual report, officers elected. Meetings quarterly.
- The Baptist School in Newton Corner admitted to the Union.
- July 15 The Baptist School in Newtonville has disbanded
- The Methodist School in Newtonville asks to be admitted, making 11 sch.
- 1861 July 21 A mission school at Bemis factory, Waltham, is connected with the Eliot Church, called the Village Sabbath School, has 10 classes and 41 pupils.
- A proposal that the oral reports each quarter be dispensed was rejected since many want to hear them.
- Oct. 20 The Oak Hill Baptist School was admitted
- 1862 Apr. 20 The Episcopal School at Lower Falls and The Methodist School at Auburndale were both admitted.
- July 20 the evening so stormy few were present and adjourned one week.
- July 27 It was suggested the reports should contain number of scholars in
- 1863 Jan. 18 At request of the North Village Church its School the Army. is admitted to the Union.
- Resolved That we acknowledge the goodness of God in permitting the existence of our Sabbath School Union to the year of its twenty fifth anniversary. and that a com. consider a celebration
- Apr. 19 A collection was taken to purchase Testaments for the colored mission school at Newbern under the auspices of the 44th and 45th Mass. regiments. \$20.00 raised, 190 Testaments bought. Resolved that the hour of sunset be set apart by the teachers and friends of this Union as an hour of prayer for the descent of the Holy Spirit on our Sabbath Schools.

last page 182
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1860-1863

- 1863 Oct. 16 Quarter Centennial Anniversary at Eliot Church, of all the Sabbath day schools in the Union. Historical address by Marshall Rice, 30 minutes, Address by S. G. Deblois to the children, address by Rev. B. F. Bronson to the teachers and officers, address by Rev. A. L. Stone to the children. A children's choir of 90 sang anthems. The congregation sang an original hymn by Rev. S. F. Smith. 1500 attended.
- 1864 April 17 J. F. C. Hyde, Newton Centre Cong. "spoke feelingly of the interesting work of grace in their school, in which the female were especially active."
- Oct. 16 Mr. Walker from Norfolk, Va. a laborer among the Contraband in the S.S. there. The introduction of temperance into the schools was urged.
- 1865 Jan. 15 Mr. Dyer told of an interesting conversion, Mr. Warner said we should not be discouraged if conversions do not follow immediately on our labors, Mr. Whittemore asked why there are so few conversions reported, are we earnest laborers in our Master's vineyard? Mr. Rice said that of the 100,000 men from S.S. in the army, 100 came from Newton.
- July 16 Mr. Kimball spoke of the unfavorable nature of the reports, and that there was a universal feeling that a great outpouring of God's holy spirit is soon to take place, because God has put it in the hearts of people to pray. Dr. Parker, formerly of China, spoke of the necessity of union among Christians. it was time of hope all over the world
- Oct. 15 Marshall rice said that 55 at Upper Falls had found Christ. Mr. Claflin that S.S. teaching was not a gratuitous thing but an absolute duty and no longer optional.
- 1866 July 15 Several remarked about the need for greater faith and prayer. It was urged that the entire Sunday afternoon be given to S.S.
- Oct. 21 Similar remarks.
- 1867 Oct. 20 The Thompsonville S.S. was admitted to the Union.
- 1868 Jan. 19 Voted that the secretary report at each meeting the number connected with the Union and the average attendance.
- Apr. 19 The Central Church S. S. was admitted to the Union.
How long should we as teachers be content without seeing the members of our classes converted to Christ? We need more prayer.
- Oct. 18 The Methodist S.S. of Newton Lower Falls was admitted to the Union.
- 1869 Jan. 17 19 schools are members of Union, total number connected is 2722, aver. att. 1535, 8839 volumes in the Libraries, contributions 234366; Added to the churches 98; 495 scholars are in communion with churches, 53 conversions. Best ways of conducting S.S. concert were discussed.
- Apr. 18 Summary report Teachers' meetings proposed for discussion.
- Oct. 17 Many views on Teachers meetings are given.
A tabular report is given.
- 1870 Jan. 16 A motion that reading of reports except whole numbers be omitted failed. A committee report to same effect specifying its nature was adopted. A committee appointed to plan S.S. Institute.
Voted that a subject for discussion for the next meeting be proposed each time, and that a ten minute essay upon it be given.
- Feb. 15 A S. S. Institute was held at Eliot Church afternoon and evening., conducted by Rev. J. H. Vincent of N.Y., was large and interesting. Many questions were considered and it was a complete success.
- The last page contains the treasurer's report 1864 -1869

- 1870 April 17 A collection of \$35 was taken at the Institute and given to Mr. Vincent for his Museum of Sunday School Curiosities. Expenses were \$2.00 for advertising in Newton Journal, and \$15 for programs.
- Rev. James read an essay on "A Uniform Lesson" for the whole school, questions to be graded for different ages. The sentiment was generally in favor of it
- July 17 Rev. Clark read essay on "Sabbath School Literature", too much in our libraries is sensational, of low literary value or religious, it represents too much a morbid piety,, holds up exceptional cases of conversion and religious living for an example to the young.
- Oct. 16 Essay by Gen. Blakesley on "The Duties of the S.S. Teacher to his class both in and out of the School", not to entertain or teach history, but to feed the lambs and save their souls. Various things he should do.
- Nov. 1, 2 A S. S. Institute at Cong. Church, Newton Centre first day and at Cong. Ch. West Newton second day, conducted by Rev. Alfred Taylor of N.Y. Subjects, The Aim of Our Work, Infant Class teaching, School Management, Hymns & Music, Teachers' Meetings, Illustrative Teaching.
- 1871 Jan. 15 A second essay on last meetings subject is read and discussed, many good points made.
- A com. previously appointed reported that quarterly meetings be held on week days, afternoon and evening, and suggested Monday. Discussed pro and con, voted to meet Mon. evening April 10. Constitution amended so that annual meeting may be held on another date, third Sunday. *Jan.*
- Apr. 10 Mr. Billings gave essay on Duties of Supt. makes many points. The change of date for quarterly meetings discussed, laid on table.
- July 16, Sund. Essay by Mr. Hayden on Duties of Parents to S.S. gave 8 practical points. Many discussed the idea animatedly.
- Oct. 15 Essay by Mr. Harwood, "Should the Missionary spirit be awakened" 4 points made as to how to do so and much discussion.
- The time of meeting changed from 6.30 to 6.00.
- 1872 Jan. 21, Annual statistics given. Essay by Mr. Darling "Ought the S.S. to have a more prominent place in the services of the Sabbath." There should be a Bible service Sunday afternoon for all. Rev. Vincent gave an address of great power,- advocated 3 Sunday services, gave modern principles of education,- cited Jewish plan 3300 years ago, spoke of Tabernacle teachings.
- Feb. 25. A new constitution reported by a committee is adopted, and printed Subject of last meeting discussed. The progress of S.S. in 25 yrs. due to zeal of workers in holding Institutes etc., writing for the press, educating the public mind. Rev. Parsons gave an address on the subject, "The S.S. Should be a part of the work of the church",- Christ was a teacher and always taught from Bible passages, and asked questions,- we neglect this and the church is cold, converts take the piety of the members.
- April 21 Essay by Mr. Eland on "Is there special encouragement to labor and pray for the conversion of young Children, and why?" Yes, they have more interest in Christ than we think. Many others agreed.
- April 28 A special meeting to hear Rev. Van Meter (?) tell of his mission in Rome and its reception. \$600 was pledged to give him a tent for meetings.
- July 21 An essay by Mr. Chase on "The Primary Department" Infant class is a misnomer, should be Primary Dept. Practical suggestions for their program.
- Oct. 20. Essay by Mr. Johnson the importance of early conversion.
- 1873 Jan. 19 An address is given Rev. Peirce, editor of Zions Herald
- Apr. 20 An address by Prof. Anderson of Newton Seminary, "the object of the S.S is the conversion of the world", - gives qualifications for teachers, the organization of the S.S. Account of revival at Newton Centre Baptist.
- July 20. Address by Mr. Benson "A S.S. Teacher's Ambition" conversion of all scholars. Voted that Spts should send reports to Sec. in advance, and not read them.
- Oct. 19 Essay by Rev. Samson, "Successful S.S. Teaching" *to save time*

- 1874 An essay by Mr. Gilman "The Bible Class", - The Bible, The Teacher, The Class.
All schools use the uniform lessons, with one or two partial exceptions.
- Jan. 28 A S. S. Institute led by Rev. Vincent. Difficulties in S. S. Work considered. A lecture on The Bible School. In the evening Preparation of the Lesson was considered. Dr. Vincent spoke on the 3 great needs in our work.
- April 19 Essay by Rev. Patrick on "Bible Study" Discussed by several.
- July 17 Address by Rev. Braman on S.S., its early days, its relation to the Pulpit, and to the common school.
- Oct. 18. An essay by Mr. Willard, Supt, of Schools, on "How TO Teach". *Reading of 1874*
- 1875 Jan. 17 The subject of discussion, "Memorial Stones" from the uniform lessons was led by Mr. Weston and continued by many others.
- 21 schools in the Union, 79 conversion in 1874
- April 18 The subject in uniform lessons, "Gideon's Army" was discussed
Reference was made to the centennial of the battle of Lexington & Concord.
- July 18 Voted that the Supt read his report, or a delegate; that discussion speeches on the essay be limited to five minutes.
- Essay by Mr. Dunne "Best methods of increasing membership in our Schools."
- Oct. 17 A deeply spiritual essay by Deacon Woodward "A vital living piety is indispensable to successful S.S. teaching"
- 1876 Jan. 16 Essay by Rev. Freeland "The Responsibility of the Teacher, How far does it go?"
- April 16 Essay by Geb. Blakeslee Teachers meetings.
- July 16 Essay by Rev. McKay "Relations of Public School to the S.S."
- Rev. Van Meter write letter of thanks for the tent which was in constant use 2½ years, now it is to be erected in a permanent place, within hearing distance of the Pope.
- Oct. 15 Essay by Prof. Tourjee "Music in the Public S.S."
- 1877 Jan. 21 Essay by Rev. Henshaw "A truer experience -- need of S.S. Teachers?" *2 col.*
- Apr. 15 The subject "Personal Religion, the object of S.S. Instruction"
- July 15 An essay by Mr. Strong on same subject.
- Oct. 21 Essay by Mr. Wright "Duties of S.S. Teacher to Converts."
- 1878 Jan. 20 Boys from the Farm School present, sang. 22 members in Union, about 3300 in schools, aver. att, 2300, contributions \$2000, conversions 216
- Essay by Rev. Jackson "How may parents help the S.S."
- Apr. 21 Essay by Rev. Howe "Best Methods of S.S. Teaching"
- July 21 Essay by Rev. Clark "Proper Preparation for teaching S.S.", treating Spirit, Knowledge, Utterance.
- Oct. 21 Essay on Temperance by a young lady of the Union, read by Wright
- 1879 Jan. 19 p. 244 has a summary
Essay by Mr. Dickinson of Mass. Bd of Educ. "Principles of teaching"
- Apr. 20 A memorial to Mr. Rice. p. 254
Com. appointed to determine date of first S.S. in Plymouth in 1680
- July 20 Subject, Should not younger children make daily confession?
Discussion led by Mr. Park.
- Oct. 19 Essay by Mr. Richardson of Boston "Distinction between Secular and Religious Schools".
- 1880 Jan. 18 Essay ~~in 1878~~ by Mr. Sargent "Illustrations in S.S. Teaching" p 282
- Apr. 18 Voted to give credentials to anyone attending the centennial celebration in London June 28
- Essay by Mr. Andrews "The Encouragements of S.S." Work compared with those in the public schools". statistics p. 292
- June 27, Century of S.S., at Eliot Hall p. 296.
- July 18 Subject "Primary Department Work", discussion by Mr. Trowbridge and Mr. Gleason of Malden. p. 305.
- Oct. 17 Essay by Mr. Bullock of Grantville "Duties of Superintendents and Teachers to their Scholars."

- 1881 Jan. 16 Essay by Rev. Howe on "Relation of the S.S. to the Christian Family" *1/2 col*
 Apr. 24 Essay by Rev. Deming of Boston YMCA "Young Men of Our Cities, their Temptations and Safeguards."
 July 17 The 170th Quarterly meeting
 Essay by Rev. Titus on "Value of Early Training"
 Oct. 23 Essay by Rev. Calkins "The Bible and How to Use It", much discussion.
 Pres. Earle has offered a prize for best essays on S.S. interests.
 submitted by Dec. 20, the best five to be read and printed
- 1882 Jan. 15 The five essays were read. First prize essay was found to be by
 Mr. Snow who was given the medal. pps 8 - 11. Statistics *1 col*
 Apr. 16 Subject "What is Success in S.S. work" discussed by several
 July 16 Essay by Rev. Nash "Thomas in the S.S."
 Oct. 15 Letter of Rev. Mackay resigning as director praises the Union as
 unique and harmonious.
 Essay by Rev. Bashford on "The Providential Place of the S.S. in Amer."
- 1883 Jan. 21 Essay by Rev. Bicknell "What Are Our Children Reading?"
 Apr. 15 Same subject continued by Rev. Nash.
 July 15 Subject "Mistakes in S.S. Teaching opened by Rev. Gunsaulus
 Oct. 21 Subject "Mistakes in S.S. Management" opened by Mr. Kimball
- 1884 Jan. 20 A motion to have meetings monthly was lost.
 "How can we increase the usefulness of the Newton S.S. Union" opened
 by Rev. Calkins. p. 64, statistics, number of quarterly reports
 Calkins comments, impression of grove meeting.
 Apr. 20 "The Aim, Scope and Responsibilities of the S.S. Work" by Prof. Sherwin.
 July 20 Myrtle Baptist S.S. admitted.
 "Is it expedient to close the S.S. during the Summer Vacation Season?"
 presented by Mr. Moore. No. Trowbridge said Eliot had never had a
 vacation in 38 years.
 Mr. Barbour urged importance of reviving interest in the Union.
 Oct. 19 "How can we reach the spiritual nature of the Children" by Mr. Savage.
- 1885 Jan. 18 "The Teachers' Work in the S.S." by Rev. Duryea of Boston.
 Pres. Barbour tried to revive interest, hoped successor would do better.
 Apr. 19 "Paul at Puteoli and Rome" by Rev. Spaulding
 Oct. 18 "Aim and Method in Moral Education" Rev. White character"
- 1886 Jan. 17 Address by Rev. Winship of Somerville "How to Teach the Bible to form
 Apr. 18 Address by Mr. Hazard, editor, "Hazard's Dynamics of S.S. Teaching."
 Oct. 17. (July skipped.) 9 schools reported.
 Address by Mrs. Drake on Temperance, of unusual interest. *near full*
- 1887 Jan. 23 Prof. Rownsend of B.U. address on Mosaic Account of the Creation.
 a powerful and intensely interesting and reasonable defense of the
 inspired account of the Creation.
 Apr. 24 Voted to disapprove the proposed law on observance of the Sabbath
 Mr. Shaw of Y.P.S.C.E. talked on the value of the society. *low full*
on enthusiasm
 Letters from 2nd Church about resigning.

